

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
VALDOSTA DIVISION

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, :  
PLAINTIFF : Case No. 7:14-CR-48 (HL)  
VS :  
: January 12, 2015  
JUAN SANCHEZ HIDALGO, ANDREW :  
D. CARTER, JUAN P. CUEVAS : Valdosta, Georgia  
JOSE A. MARTINEZ :  
DEFENDANT. :

## DETENTION HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE THOMAS LANGSTAFF  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE, PRESIDING

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## 1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 January 12, 2015

3 THE COURT: Good afternoon to everyone.

4 ATTORNEYS COLLECTIVELY: Good afternoon.

5 THE COURT: Let's see, today is Monday, January  
6 12th, 2:00 o'clock PM. One case, four Defendants on the  
7 calendar. We will start with the first Defendant who is  
8 just here for an initial appearance and arraignment today.

9 (RECESS)

10 THE COURT: Now that brings us to the other  
11 three Defendants that are present. The Court now calls  
12 the case of United States of America versus Andrew David  
13 Carter, Junior, José Alfredo Martinez and Juan Sanchez  
14 Hidalgo being case number 7:14-CR-48.15 These Defendants have had their initial  
16 appearance and been arraigned. They are back this  
17 afternoon for a scheduled detention hearing. Ms. Bowen,  
18 is the government ready to proceed?

19 MS. BOWEN: We are, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: And Ms. Bowen is here on behalf of  
21 the government. Ms. Williams is here on behalf of Mr.  
22 Carter. Ms. Williams, are you ready to proceed on behalf  
23 of Mr. Carter?

24 MS. WILLIAMS: I am.

25 THE COURT: And Mr. Walker is here on behalf of

1 Mr. Martinez. Mr. Walker, are you ready to proceed?

2 MR. WALKER: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Haugabrook is here on behalf of

4 Mr. Hidalgo. Mr. Haugabrook, are you ready to proceed?

5 MR. HAUGABROOK: I am, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: I'll ask the marshals to allow the  
7 Defendants, if there is room, if it's all right with the  
8 marshals, to sit with their counsel for the hearing.

9 Of course, the interpreter is here for Mr.  
10 Sanchez Hidalgo. This is Ms. Dorminey for the record.  
11 She's already been sworn in.

12 Mr. Haugabrook and Ms. Dorminey if any witness  
13 or the lawyer or Judge forgets that we have an interpreter  
14 working, please notify us and we'll slow down.

15 All right, it looks like we are ready. Any  
16 preliminary matters before we begin?

17 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, the government would  
18 ask to invoke the rule as to any witnesses remaining in  
19 the courtroom.

20 THE COURT: All right. Counsel, any witnesses  
21 that you may call this afternoon for the hearing? This  
22 applies to the government and any Defendant, please ask  
23 those witnesses to remain outside until they are called.

24 Any preliminary matters from any of the defense  
25 counsel?

1 MS. WILLIAMS: None for myself.

2 MR. WALKER: Not on behalf of Mr. Martinez,  
3 Your Honor.

4 MR. HAUGABROOK: Just briefly, Judge, if I may  
5 address one issue as it relates to the immigration matter  
6 in my client's case. And I'll briefly bring to the  
7 Court's attention on Friday, Your Honor, we filed a brief  
8 in opposition to the detention motion that was filed by  
9 the government. I made reference in that brief, Your  
10 Honor, that immigration had rescinded the detainer that  
11 had been issued against my client back on December 29th,  
12 2014. I believe that Mr. Howell received a copy of that  
13 rescinded detainer.

14 As I was leaving to come over here today, Your  
15 Honor, I learned that that detainer may have been  
16 reinstated. As I was traveling, Your Honor, I did call  
17 the Agent whose number is listed in the original detainer,  
18 as well as the rescinding detainer. And I will state in  
19 my place, as an officer of the Court, Your Honor, that  
20 that officer was unaware that the detainer had been  
21 reissued. And apparently it was reissued, according to  
22 him, he believes out of Atlanta. Right now there is, I  
23 presume, a detainer that is in place that's dated with the  
24 original date.

25 And what I would ask the Court, at this time, as

1 it relates to the detainer in my conversations with the  
2 immigration officer who rescinded the detainer. Your  
3 Honor, as I mentioned last week there is no basis for any  
4 immigration proceedings, ie no deportation proceedings at  
5 this time.

6 That officer has confirmed that as about an hour  
7 ago. The position that he is taking is what immigration  
8 would likely do in this case -- and I think it's important  
9 for the Court to know this. That if the Court would grant  
10 bond for my client immigration would or may take him into  
11 custody, that is Mr. Hidalgo, but that they would  
12 immediately release him because he has not been convicted  
13 of any felony.

14 I think, Your Honor, for the Court's purposes,  
15 because there appears to be something that has been at  
16 work to have this retainer reinstated by someone other  
17 than the officer who would be in charge of taking my  
18 client into custody, from immigration standpoint.

19 It may behoove the Court, and I would certainly  
20 respectfully ask the Court to allow Mr. Howell an  
21 opportunity to go back and contact the officer, who  
22 rescinded that detainer, to confirm and to be able to  
23 report to this Court that if bond is granted that they  
24 would either one, take Mr. Hidalgo into custody and  
25 immediately release him. And if they would give him a

1 bond it would be an OR bond. There is a great likelihood,  
2 according to Mr. Skipwood, that they would not even pick  
3 him up.

4 And I bring that to the Court's attention  
5 because I do think it would bear on the Court's decision  
6 whether or not to grant my client a bond.

7 And I also bring it to the Court's attention  
8 because I believe it's a little ironic, it's a little odd,  
9 Your Honor, that the bond or the detainer would be  
10 rescinded Friday and all of a sudden this morning it's now  
11 reinstated by an office different than the original  
12 issuing office and officer. And so for that reason, Your  
13 Honor, I would respectfully ask the Court -- -if the Court  
14 would be so kind as to allow Mr. Howell, because I do  
15 believe Mr. Howell talked with the officer on Friday to  
16 confirm and actually received an actual copy of the  
17 detainer that was rescinded. And just so that the Court  
18 would have that information, if the Court would consider  
19 it in this case.

20 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Haugabrook.

21 MS. BOWEN: May I be heard as to that issue,  
22 Your Honor?

23 THE COURT: Sure.

24 MS. BOWEN: In reply to that, it is correct  
25 that the detainer was made inactive on Friday. I received

1 the response Mr. Haugabrook makes reference to. I called  
2 the Agent who issued the original detainer, whose name is  
3 on it and that is Agent Payne, because I wanted to inquire  
4 as to the merit and the basis of the detainer on Mr.  
5 Hidalgo.

6 Following that conversation the detainer that  
7 was originally issued, by Agent Payne, was modified by  
8 Agent Payne to reflect that Mr. Hidalgo had been charged  
9 with a felony offense. That is a basis to detain Mr.  
10 Hidalgo.

11 Now, the government does not rely solely on ICE  
12 detainer to keep Mr. Hidalgo in custody. The government  
13 will present evidence in conjunction with this detainer as  
14 to his risk of flight and his danger to the community.

15 I believe it is relevant to the Court's analysis  
16 that Mr. Hidalgo is not a citizen of the United States.  
17 While he may have obtained permanent residency, he first  
18 illegally entered this country and upon conviction, should  
19 we reach that stage of this crime, which is an aggravated  
20 felony under Title Eight, USC 1101(a)(U)(43), he will be  
21 subject to deportation. So I put that in the context of  
22 this detainer is active and he will be taken into ICE  
23 custody.

24 Now, what the officials -- and I believe he  
25 would go to Stewart to determine what to do with him, that

1 is within their discretion.

2                   However, as I have represented to this Court,  
3 both in my reply to the defenses brief and in the detainer  
4 which was attached, this is an active detainer and will be  
5 used in conjunction with the other evidence presented.

6                   THE COURT: Is there any dispute -- let me tell  
7 you the Court's understanding. I understand there was a  
8 detainer, it was rescinded, now the detainer is back in  
9 play. Am I right so far? Everybody agrees.

10                  MR. HAUGABROOK: Yes, Your Honor.

11                  THE COURT: Mr. Howell, do you have any contrary  
12 information?

13                  MR. HOWELL: No, sir. The only other point for  
14 me that hasn't been put on the table already is, at the  
15 instruction of the government, I came and met with her and  
16 reviewed the updated one and she put that individual on  
17 the phone. She made a phone call to the person that  
18 initiated the second one and he verified that yes, there  
19 was, in fact, a second one. And there was some discussion  
20 if there was a need to potentially update the document  
21 that reflected a more current date than that December 29  
22 date they could do that. But there was, in fact, a new  
23 detainer in place.

24                  THE COURT: All right. The Court understands  
25 where we are. Let me just, for counsel's benefit -- so

1 that you can direct the focus of the hearing, it may  
2 assist you a little bit. The Court doesn't put a lot of  
3 stock in the fact that the Department of Homeland  
4 Security, if this Court ordered release, may pick up the  
5 Defendant. I think they've got 48 hours that he can be  
6 held before he's released because of the detainer. To me  
7 that doesn't really impact flight risk, the fact that  
8 there may be a detainer now. What does impact flight  
9 risks to the Court is the fact that if the Defendant is  
10 convicted then my understanding is he could be deported.

11 That's the only relevance of all this to me and  
12 it's an argument that, you know, counsel can make.  
13 Obviously, he hasn't been convicted. There's only  
14 probable cause for the offense. If he is convicted my  
15 understanding is that could lead to deportation.

16 As of now, the way we currently accept, this  
17 detainer is neither here nor there as to flight risks, as  
18 far as I'm concerned it's an administrative matter.

19 All right. So I think we are all on the same  
20 page, hopefully now, or at least we know what the Court is  
21 going to consider.

22 All right, then, which just for the record again  
23 we will do the detention hearing for all three Defendants  
24 at the same time. I will, as I typically do, go down the  
25 order that they are listed in the indictment when I ask

1 for them to put up their case or cross examination.

2 All right, even though the government has said  
3 that it has the rebuttable presumption as to all three the  
4 government still has the ultimate burden in the case. So  
5 that being said, Ms. Bowen you may call your first  
6 witness.

7 MS. BOWEN: The government would call Agent  
8 Stripling Luke.

9 **STRIPLING LUKE**

10 Witness, having first been duly sworn, testified on

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION

12 BY MS. BOWEN:

13 **Q.** Good afternoon, sir?

14 **A.** Good afternoon.

15 **Q.** Will you, please, state your name for the record?

16 **A.** Stripling Luke. My first name is Stripling,  
17 S-T-R-I-P-L-I-N-G (spelling). Last name is Luke, L-U-K-E.  
18 (Spelling).

19 **Q.** And where do you work, sir?

20 **A.** Employed with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

21 **Q.** And how long have you been so employed?

22 **A.** I've been employed with the Georgia Bureau of  
23 Investigation for approximately seven years, up in the  
24 Sylvester office for the last six years.

25 **Q.** And what kind of cases do you work on for the GBI?

1       **A.**     My primary focus is drug enforcement.

2                 THE COURT: Hold on one second Agent Luke. Mr.  
3     Lawrence, can we help him out with that microphone and get  
4     it closer to him.

5                 THE WITNESS: I can scoot towards it Judge, but  
6     the chair does not move.

7                 THE COURT: No, you are looking at counsel and  
8     this is kind of -- I don't know, this is the first time  
9     we've had this come up.

10    BY MS. BOWEN:

11    **Q.**     In the course of your duties, did you participate in  
12    an investigation involving Andrew Carter, José Martinez  
13    and Juan Sanchez Hidalgo?

14    **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

15    **Q.**     And do you see those three individuals in the  
16    courtroom here today?

17    **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

18    **Q.**     And will you, please, individually identify them by  
19    an article of clothing they are wearing?

20    **A.**     Well, they're all wearing a red jump suit.

21    **Q.**     Perhaps you can identify them by their seating  
22    position?

23    **A.**     Mr. Sanchez is the first beside Mr. Haugabrook. Mr.  
24    Martinez is by Mr. Walker and Mr. Carter is beside Ms.  
25    Williams.

1       **Q.**     Thank you. Agent Luke, did you work this case by  
2     yourself or did you have other agencies that worked with  
3     you?

4       **A.**     There were other agencies involved to include the  
5     Drug Enforcement Administration, (inaudible) Narcotics  
6     Task Force and several sheriff's offices in the south  
7     Georgia area.

8       **Q.**     And as part of this investigation of the individuals  
9     you just identified, did you obtain court orders to  
10    intercept telephone calls?

11      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

12      **Q.**     And is that what is commonly known as a wiretap?

13      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

14      **Q.**     Before this investigation, have you previously  
15    worked cases involving wiretaps?

16      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

17      **Q.**     And is it common, based on that experience, in  
18    wiretap investigations for drug traffickers to use coded  
19    language?

20      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

21      **Q.**     Or code words?

22      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

23      **Q.**     Before we talk about any intercepted communications,  
24    were confidential sources used in this investigation?

25      **A.**     Yes, ma'am. In January of 2014 I received

1 information that Andrew Carter was distributing multiple  
2 kilograms of cocaine and identified his residence as 6147  
3 Futch Road, Hahira, Cook County, Georgia, which is on the  
4 Cook/Lowndes County line.

5 These sources of information also identified José  
6 Martinez as his supplier of cocaine.

7 **Q.** And were examinations of the refuse at the address  
8 you've just listed, 6147 Futch Road, belonging to Andrew  
9 Carter conducted?

10 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

11 **Q.** What items were located pursuant to these  
12 examinations?

13 **A.** Yes, ma'am. In March and April 2014, we recovered  
14 several items that would indicate to me distribution of  
15 narcotics to include drug ledgers. The drug ledgers had  
16 totals to \$39,000. It also listed several aliases or  
17 nicknames in the drug ledgers and probably what they owed.  
18 We also located cocaine, packaging material and minute  
19 cards or cell phone minute cards in the trash.

20 THE COURT: Agent Luke, Ms. Dorminey, just at  
21 any time, because you are kind of in my view but no one  
22 else's view, you just raise your hand if the witness is  
23 going to fast.

24 MS. DORMINEY: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: And I will see you.

1 BY MS. BOWEN:

2 **Q.** And was surveillance conducted throughout this  
3 investigation?

4 **A.** It was.

5 **Q.** And relevant to Andrew Carter, what did surveillance  
6 observe on March 27th, 2014?

7 **A.** Yes, ma'am. On March 27, 2014 we observed Andrew  
8 Carter in his front yard, and this is the 6147 Futch Road  
9 address, and he was working under the hood of a white in  
10 color Jeep Cherokee.

11 It appeared that he was doing mechanical work on the  
12 vehicle, just based on my surveillance. He got in the  
13 vehicle and he appeared to be driving the vehicle around  
14 the area of his residence to see if the vehicle was  
15 functioning properly, it seemed to me. He was gone for  
16 approximately five minutes and returned. There was two  
17 Cook County Sheriff's deputies who were following him. At  
18 least one of them had his emergency lights activated.

19 **Q.** Agent Luke, I think when you are turning to face me  
20 your voice is going in and out over the mike. So while it  
21 is a little awkward posture if you'll make sure you stay  
22 as close to the mike as possible.

23 (Aside)

24 BY MS. BOWEN:

25 **Q.** Due to the in and out of your voice, will you please

1 repeat the date that you observed this activity taking  
2 place at Mr. Carter's front yard at 6147 Futch Road?

3 **A.** Yes, ma'am. As I was saying it was March 27, 2014.  
4 Andrew Carter was working on a white in color Jeep  
5 Cherokee in his front yard. It appeared to be that he was  
6 doing mechanical work. He closed the hood and drove and  
7 left his residence. It appeared to me that he was test  
8 driving the car to see if the mechanical problems the car  
9 was having if he had fixed them. He returned a short time  
10 later followed by two Cook County Sheriff's deputies. At  
11 least one of the deputies car lights are activated. The  
12 white Jeep Cherokee arrives at the house and pulls behind  
13 the house and the driver flees on foot.

14 Based on my communication with the Cook County  
15 Sheriff's office I learned that an individual who lives in  
16 the area of 6147 Futch Road had reported a suspected  
17 burglary at her residence. And I observed a suspicious  
18 vehicle in the area to just being this white Jeep  
19 Cherokee.

20 When I learned of -- that's the reason the Cook  
21 County Sheriff's office was at Andrew Carter's house. I  
22 felt confident that he didn't have any responsibility in  
23 the burglary of this individual's house and I requested  
24 that the Cook County Sheriff's office stop their search  
25 for him. But he did flee in the woods on foot because he

1 thought law enforcement was chasing him.

2 **Q.** And did the color of this Jeep later change?

3 **A.** It did. It was painted later to blue.

4 **Q.** You earlier testified that José Martinez was  
5 identified as a supplier of cocaine to Andrew Carter. Did  
6 your investigation confirm that information?

7 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

8 **Q.** Will you, please, briefly tell us about that?

9 **A.** Yes, ma'am. We would observe José Martinez or José  
10 Martinez's vehicle both being a white in color Dodge  
11 Durango and a gold in color Chevrolet Tahoe at the time,  
12 drive or travel to 6147 Futch Road. Sometimes we would  
13 not see the driver of the vehicle but other times we would  
14 see José Martinez meeting with Andrew Carter exchanging  
15 items.

16 **Q.** And you mentioned that one of these days was April  
17 10, 2014?

18 **A.** That was one of the days, yes, ma'am.

19 **Q.** And did surveillance capture still images of the  
20 meeting between José Martinez and Andrew Carter on that  
21 date?

22 **A.** We did.

23 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, may I approach the  
24 witness?

25 THE COURT: Tell me again what that date was.

1 MS. BOWEN: April 10, 2014.

2 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am, you may.

3 MS. BOWEN: And before I do so I'm going to  
4 show to defense counsel what I've marked for  
5 identification as Government's Exhibit 6, 2 through 10.

6 BY MS. BOWEN:

7 **Q.** Agent Luke, do you recognize what's identified as  
8 Government's Exhibit 10?

9 **A.** I do.

10 **Q.** And what is it?

11 **A.** It's a photograph of Andrew Carter exiting his  
12 residence. I don't know if you can tell it in this  
13 photograph but in his left hand he is carrying a bag or  
14 package of some type. In his right hand he was carrying  
15 an AR-15 type assault weapon.

16 **Q.** And before you go any further than that, is it a  
17 fair and accurate depiction of the events captured?

18 **A.** It is.

19 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, I'd like to tender them  
20 as Exhibit 10.

21 THE COURT: Any objection? Ms. Williams?

22 MS. WILLIAMS: No objections to the photos.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Walker?

24 MR. WALKER: No objection, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: All right. Government's 10 is

1 admitted.

2 BY MS. BOWEN:

3 **Q.** Agent Luke, I believe you were testifying as to what  
4 is depicted by Government's Exhibit 10. Will you, please,  
5 continue that explanation?

6 **A.** Yes, ma'am. You can vaguely see it, I believe,  
7 in the far corner photograph. And I don't know if it's  
8 representation of it or not, but Andrew Carter is  
9 walking to the gold in color Tahoe that we observed at  
10 José Martinez's residence of 128 Meadows Drive.

11 **Q.** And what is he carrying in his hands?

12 **A.** He is carrying like a bag of some type in his left  
13 hand and then an AR-15 type assault weapon in his right  
14 hand and he gets inside this vehicle and the vehicle  
15 leaves.

16 **Q.** And the still photographs were, where they captured  
17 the event that you described taking place on May 11th,  
18 2014, that meeting between Andrew Carter and José  
19 Martinez?

20 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

21 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, may I approach the  
22 witness again?

23 THE COURT: You may.

24 MS. BOWEN: And I will provide copies.

25

1 BY MS. BOWEN:

2 Q. Agent Luke, do you recognize what's marked as  
3 Government's Exhibit 11?

4 A. Yes, ma'am. Government's Exhibit 11 is a photograph  
5 of José Martinez receiving a shoebox size package from  
6 Andrew Carter at 6147 Futch Road.

7 Q. And is it a fair and accurate depiction?

8 A. Yes, ma'am.

9 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, I tender Government's  
10 Exhibit 11.

11 THE COURT: Any objection?

12 MR. WALKER: No objection for Mr. Martinez.

13 MS. WILLIAMS: No objection for Mr. Carter.

14 MR. HAUGABROOK: No objection from Mr. Hidalgo.

15 THE COURT: Thank you Mr. Haugabrook. If I  
16 leave out any of the Defendants feel free to step up if  
17 you do have an objection, but normally I'll just ask the  
18 ones that are immediately relevant. All right.

19 Government's Exhibit 11 is admitted.

20 BY MS. BOWEN:

21 Q. In the same fashion that surveillance captured the  
22 meeting between Andrew Carter and José Martinez on April  
23 10th, 2014 and May 11th, 2014, similarly was there footage  
24 captured of the meeting between them on August 11th, 2014?

25 A. Yes, ma'am. This is a representative sample of

1 meetings. August 11th is another meeting but there are  
2 several meetings that occur in between this period of  
3 time.

4 MS. BOWEN: May I approach the witness, Your  
5 Honor?

6 THE COURT: You may.

7 MS. BOWEN: And, Your Honor, I also have  
8 copies for the Court if you would like them at this time?

9 THE COURT: 10 and 11?

10 MS. BOWEN: Yes. And what I have marked now  
11 as Government's 12.

12 THE COURT: That one hasn't been admitted yet,  
13 has it?

14 MS. BOWEN: No, sir. I was going to leave  
15 them on the bench so that you could have them. That will  
16 be the last photographs for the next little bit.

17 THE COURT: All right. You can go ahead and  
18 hand up 10 and 11 and put the others on the side.

19 BY MS. BOWEN:

20 Q. Agent Luke, do you recognize what's marked as  
21 Government's Exhibit 12?

22 A. Yes, ma'am.

23 Q. And what is it?

24 A. Again it's a surveillance photograph or surveillance  
25 depicting Andrew Carter, who is driving the green in color

1 Chevrolet Tahoe or GMC Tahoe at 1569 Georgia Avenue, which  
2 is going to be the residence of his mother, Sarah Carter,  
3 meeting with an individual driving a white in color Ford  
4 F-250 four door displaying a temporary tag. This occurred  
5 on August 11th. Now, at this time on August 11th José  
6 Martinez --

7 **Q.** And before you go any further is it a fair and  
8 accurate depiction of that event?

9 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

10 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, I tender Government's  
11 12.

12 THE COURT: Any objection?

13 MS. WILLIAMS: No, Your Honor, not from Mr.  
14 Carter.

15 MR. WALKER: No objection for Mr. Martinez,  
16 Your Honor.

17 MR. HAUGABROOK: No objection.

18 THE COURT: 12 is admitted.

19 MS. BOWEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

20 BY MS. BOWEN:

21 **Q.** Agent Luke, if you would continue your explanation  
22 as to the Ford F-250 and Mr. Martinez?

23 **A.** Yes, ma'am. It's displaying a temporary drive out  
24 tag. Now that vehicle was observed before this day on  
25 surveillance. Not on August 11th but around this time at

1 128 Meadows Drive, which is the residence of José  
2 Martinez. Subsequently a vehicle similar to this one has  
3 a permanent tag on it that was observed driven by José  
4 Martinez on a daily basis.

5 **Q.** Shortly thereafter did you obtain a court order to  
6 intercept telephone calls?

7 **A.** We did.

8 **Q.** And did you obtain this wiretap order on telephones  
9 used by Andrew Carter?

10 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

11 **Q.** And through the interception of these communications  
12 were you further able to confirm and identify the sources  
13 of cocaine for the Carter/Martinez drug trafficking  
14 organization?

15 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

16 **Q.** And who were they?

17 **A.** Yes, ma'am. Andrew Carter's immediate source of  
18 supply for cocaine was José Martinez whose lives in the  
19 Omega, Georgia area. In Atlanta, Georgia where the  
20 cocaine was coming from were, I believe to be two Hispanic  
21 males one known by the alias of "Fatboy" or "Fatman" and  
22 the other known by the alias of Skinny.

23 THE COURT: What was the last alias?

24 WITNESS LUKE: Skinny. Two different people,  
25 Judge.

1 BY MS. BOWEN:

2 **A.** THE WITNESS: They were receiving kilogram size  
3 quantities of cocaine anywhere from 5 to 15 kilograms and  
4 distributing them in the south Georgia area. The cocaine  
5 would be sold as powdered cocaine and also manufactured  
6 into crack cocaine for sale.

7 **Q.** And you mentioned a source of cocaine for these  
8 individuals as "Fatboy" through the course of the  
9 investigation. And later on were you able to identify who  
10 "Fatboy" is?

11 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

12 **Q.** And I will ask you about that in just a minute.

13 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, may I approach the  
14 witness again?

15 THE COURT: You may.

16 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, if I could ask the  
17 Court's indulgence I'm going to hand out the copies of the  
18 aids, the transcripts that I'm going to ask the Agent  
19 about. But I'm going to pass them out to the defense and  
20 it may just take a minute because there are a number of  
21 them.

22 THE COURT: Sure, absolutely.

23 BY MS. BOWEN:

24 **Q.** Agent Luke, do you recognize items that I have just  
25 handed you? The disk being Government's Exhibit Number 1

1 and the transcriptions as Government's Exhibit 2 through  
2 9?

3 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

4 **Q.** I'm asking you first about Government's Exhibit 1.  
5 Are you familiar with the contents of that disk?

6 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

7 **Q.** And are the calls exact recordings of the  
8 conversations between the participants?

9 **A.** Yes, ma'am. The calls are located on this disk.

10 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, I request permission to  
11 tender and publish, throughout the testimony of Agent  
12 Luke, Government's Exhibit 1.

13 THE COURT: Any objection?

14 MS. WILLIAMS: I would object to the  
15 transcripts.

16 THE COURT: She hadn't moved on those yet, have  
17 you? Just 1, the disk?

18 MS. BOWEN: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: Any objection to the admission of  
20 the disk which is Government's 1?

21 MS. WILLIAMS: Will she be playing the disk in  
22 its entirety?

23 MS. BOWEN: All the calls that are on that  
24 disk, yes.

25 MS. WILLIAMS: You will play that entire disk?

1 MS. BOWEN: That is my intention, yes.

2 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay.

3 MR. WALKER: And may I inquire, Your Honor, is  
4 that portions of telephone calls that are just selected  
5 and placed on that disk?

6 MS. BOWEN: They are complete calls. However,  
7 I cannot play all of the calls taken from the wires at  
8 this hearing. So what I have done is I have selected  
9 relevant telephone calls to the testimony of Agent Luke.  
10 So the call will be played in its entirety.

11 MR. WALKER: I guess my concern there would be  
12 the call in its entirety as it relates to who may have  
13 received this telephone call or what came after that  
14 telephone call, Your Honor, as not being the total  
15 transcript or recordings. Your Honor, that cause me  
16 concerns that I would object to them in relation to that.

17 THE COURT: I understand your objection but you  
18 will be able to explore that on cross examination with the  
19 Agent.

20 MR. HAUGABROOK: Your Honor, I think in  
21 addition to that argument as well, in my conversations  
22 with Agent Luke right before we started proceedings, my  
23 understanding is that he only listened to that portion of  
24 calls that's pertinent to his testimony. So, unless he's  
25 listened to it -- You're shaking your head. So if that's

1 not the case I would certainly be concerned as to the same  
2 objection, whether or not there's information before the  
3 calls, after the calls, that may shed a different light on  
4 what we have been presented today.

5 THE COURT: I think I see your point with Mr.  
6 Walker. In other words, if we're talking about baking  
7 powder in a vacuum then maybe the call before that it  
8 was about going to the grocery store would make it  
9 innocuous.

10 MR. HAUGABROOK: Absolutely.

11 THE COURT: Benign. So I understand that  
12 argument. I don't know that that's going to make these  
13 calls inadmissible. I would say that they would come in  
14 but obviously if there's nothing linking them to direct  
15 drug activity then I certainly will consider your points  
16 that it could have been benign conversations. But I think  
17 I will let you explore that on cross. Government's 1 is  
18 admitted.

19 MS. BOWEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

20 BY MS. BOWEN:

21 **Q.** Speaking now of Government's Exhibits 2 through 9.  
22 Agent Luke, did you prepare or cause to have be prepared  
23 transcriptions of the calls that are contained on  
24 Government's Exhibit 1?

25 **A.** Yes, myself or members of the team that were

1 listening to the calls prepared these transcripts and I've  
2 reviewed them.

3 **Q.** And you reviewed them. And those are -- when you  
4 make that transcription you listen to the call and then it  
5 is taken down based on what's heard on that telephone  
6 call?

7 **A.** Yes.

8 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, I would tender  
9 Government's Exhibits 2 through 9. I note they are an aid  
10 to the call itself which is the evidence; however they aid  
11 the listener in hearing that evidence.

12 THE COURT: Agent Luke, does 2 through 9  
13 purport to be the transcription in its entirety of disk 1?

14 WITNESS LUKE: Yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: Any objection?

16 MR. WALKER: No objection from Mr. Martinez.

17 THE COURT: Of course, as counsel knows the  
18 evidence will be the actual call and to the extent the  
19 transcription doesn't match with the call, by all means  
20 counsel, point that out to the Court and an adjustment  
21 will be made. I'll take the transcription as an aid but  
22 obviously it will make my review easier if it does match  
23 up with the disk. All right. Government's 2 through 9  
24 are admitted.

25 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, may I retrieve the

1 disk?

2 THE COURT: Yes.

3 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, if I may request,  
4 Government's Exhibits 2 through 9 they have been tendered.  
5 Would Your Honor like a copy of those transcriptions?

6 THE COURT: Please, ma'am.

7 BY MS. BOWEN:

8 **Q.** Agent Luke, I'll direct your attention to August  
9 31st, 2014. Was a telephone call intercepted between  
10 Andrew Carter and José Martinez at approximately 5:50  
11 p.m.?

12 **A.** Yes, ma'am. It's session number 505. And that  
13 session number is a reference to each incoming or outgoing  
14 conversation, has a unique identifier or number and this  
15 is session number 505. It's an incoming call from what we  
16 believe is José Martinez to Andrew Carter.

17 **Q.** And before we listen to session 505, I think it's  
18 already been alluded to. Would you please place the  
19 communications of this call in context with the activity  
20 that you had gathered through your investigation on this  
21 particular date?

22 **A.** Yes, ma'am. José Martinez had flown to somewhere in  
23 Texas to ascertain a new source of supply of cocaine.

24 MS. BOWEN: And, Your Honor, if you will bear  
25 with me one second I'm going to attempt to use the speaker

1 to make it so that everyone can hear.

2 THE COURT: All right. Before you do that, I  
3 just noticed something in looking through these  
4 transcriptions. Some of them have a synopsis -- one of  
5 them has a synopsis that is blacked out. The synopsis, I  
6 take it, is a conclusion either made by this witness, the  
7 transcriber or government counsel about the interpretation  
8 of the phone calls; am I right?

9 MS. BOWEN: Yes, Your Honor. The synopsis is  
10 inputted by the reviewer.

11 THE COURT: It's not the government's position,  
12 is it, that the Court should consider the synopsis as part  
13 of these exhibits, is it?

14 MS. BOWEN: No, Your Honor. And I did not  
15 take the opportunity to present the ones with the synopsis  
16 entirely removed. Your Government's Exhibit 7 does have  
17 the synopsis removed. I was one copy short on that. If  
18 you would like one with the synopsis I believe Agent Luke  
19 can let you borrow his copy. However, if you would like  
20 me to tender the transcriptions with no synopsis I have  
21 also prepared them. So, I went either way because I was  
22 worried if I didn't do it they would object and if I did  
23 do it there would be objections. So, I have it both  
24 ways.

25 THE COURT: All right. Well, let me state

1 this for defense counsel's clarification and I'll do what  
2 -- I don't think it's appropriate for the Court to  
3 consider the synopsis and I'm not going to consider it.  
4 The copies I've been provided that have been admitted have  
5 unredacted synopsis. It sounds like Ms. Bowen is prepared  
6 to hand me something else. So maybe the safest thing is  
7 just to make that change, Ms. Bowen.

8 MS. BOWEN: Okay.

9 THE COURT: That way I don't have to worry  
10 about looking at it, defense counsel doesn't have to worry  
11 about me reading it. So I'm going to give you back 2  
12 through 9.

13 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, it appears I'm missing  
14 number 6 without the synopsis. If you will just bear with  
15 me for a moment. I thought I had them all out on the  
16 table there.

17 THE COURT: It's all right.

18 MS. BOWEN: It's eluding me. I'll note for the  
19 record that 5, the synopsis is the transcription so it's  
20 just in a different place and that's why that one is  
21 unredacted.

22 THE COURT: The Agent has 6 that's been  
23 redacted if you want to --

24 MS. BOWEN: I gave it to you. Thank you.

25 THE COURT: Of course, the Court won't

1 shortchange the Agent's opinion as to what any  
2 conversation means but I would rather hear his  
3 interpretation from the stand as opposed to looking at the  
4 transcript.

5 MS. BOWEN: Thank you.

6 THE COURT: All right. The Court now has 2  
7 through 9. The synopsis has been redacted on all of these  
8 exhibits so the Court could just have a transcript of  
9 Government's Number 1 which is the disk. All right. Ms.  
10 Bowen, you may proceed.

11 MS. BOWEN: Okay, Your Honor. At this time I'm  
12 going to play the session we've been talking about prior  
13 to handing out all the transcriptions, which is session  
14 505 that took place on August 31, 2014.

15 (Audio playing at this time)

16 THE COURT: Ms. Bowen, hold on one moment.  
17 Have you got an extra copy of these exhibits.

18 MS. BOWEN: Yes, sir, I believe that I do.  
19 Would you like me to get them to --

20 THE COURT: I was thinking of our interpreter,  
21 it might make her job a lot easier. It doesn't matter if  
22 it has the synopsis on it or not. It would make it easier  
23 for her to follow along with the tape. Thank you, Ms.  
24 Bowen. You may proceed.

25 MS. BOWEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

1 BY MS. BOWEN:

2 **Q.** Agent Luke, where was José Martinez located when you  
3 made this call to Andrew Carter?

4 **A.** On --

5 **Q.** What state?

6 **A.** Texas. And he makes indication that he is near his  
7 kinfolk.

8 **Q.** And the reference, based on your training and  
9 experience and your knowledge of the investigation,  
10 "You've got a half left", what is that referring to?

11 **A.** Yes, ma'am. They are talking about a half a  
12 kilogram of cocaine.

13 **Q.** It appears there's some conversation about, "You  
14 know they good though." What is this referring to?

15 **A.** Yes, ma'am. During the course of this wire we were  
16 receiving cocaine that was of poor quality and Andrew  
17 Carter is trying to determine if this cocaine is of good  
18 quality. When you manufacture powder cocaine into crack  
19 cocaine if the cocaine is not of the right quality people  
20 will have trouble manufacturing it into crack cocaine and  
21 thus Andrew Carter will receive complaints. And in this  
22 case, he did receive complaints about the quality of  
23 certain types of cocaine.

24 **Q.** And would Andrew Carter's statement "As long as they  
25 don't look like powdery like chalk", would be a reference

1 to a quality of cocaine?

2 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

3 **Q.** Now, I believe we heard some conversation by José  
4 Martinez about having to give information about family,  
5 his partner, ID, I guess personal information. What is  
6 the significance of that?

7 **A.** Yes, ma'am. He is having to give -- I call it  
8 identification data on Andrew Carter's family and his  
9 family in case they are to receive this large shipment of  
10 cocaine that they discuss in this conversation.

11 MR. WALKER: I hate to interject but I would  
12 object to that on the conclusion that part of this witness  
13 stating what these people on this recording may be  
14 referring to and what they may be (inaudible) from the  
15 conversation, Your Honor.

16 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, the Agent can  
17 certainly testify based upon his training and experience.  
18 He's testified that he's worked in drug investigations for  
19 seven years. He previously worked in wiretaps. He's also  
20 been the lead case agent in this case. So certainly the  
21 Court can weigh the interpretation of the Agent, however,  
22 you have heard the call.

23 And he's also testified that drug traffickers  
24 sometimes use coded language or coded words to avoid  
25 detection by law enforcement. So, on that basis I believe

1 that Agent Luke should be allowed to, I think that has  
2 already been alluded to, put this call in context.

3 THE COURT: Well, the Court is aware it is the  
4 Agent's interpretation of the substance of the wiretap.  
5 I'll overrule the objection.

6 MS. BOWEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

7 BY MS. BOWEN:

8 **Q.** The comment by José Martinez, "Good 31". The number  
9 31 what is it in reference to?

10 **A.** Yes, ma'am. 31 is a reference to \$31,000. His  
11 price for a kilogram of cocaine or 2.2 pounds.

12 In this case we learned that a kilogram was costing  
13 anywhere from 36,000 to 39,000. And this price of 31,000  
14 would be a significant decrease in price.

15 **Q.** But, in conjunction with that was there also some  
16 requirement of bulk?

17 **A.** Yes.

18 **Q.** Based upon this conversation?

19 **A.** Yes, ma'am. They are discussing at the bottom of  
20 that page, you know, we could do 10 or 15 but they're  
21 wanting to send us 50 to 100. And they are both, José  
22 Martinez and Andrew Carter do not want to be responsible  
23 for 50 to 100 kilograms of cocaine. It would be why you  
24 would want somebody's identification data. If, you know,  
25 they didn't pay the money, they would know who to come

1 talk to in order to see about getting their money if they  
2 are putting this kind of trust with 50 to 100 kilograms of  
3 cocaine in anybody's custody.

4 **Q.** And towards the end of the call there is some  
5 conversation about how many Andrew needs. Is this in  
6 reference to kilograms of cocaine?

7 **A.** Yes, ma'am. He indicates that he wants four  
8 kilograms of cocaine.

9 **Q.** All right. Agent Luke, before we move off session  
10 505, the call that took place between José Martinez and  
11 Andrew Carter on August 31st, 2014. You've testified that  
12 some bona fides or personal information would be required  
13 to, I guess, secure a transaction. Is this particularly  
14 relevant in light of an incident that took place in 2004?

15 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

16 **Q.** And what was that incident and would you, please,  
17 describe it for the Court?

18 **A.** Yes, ma'am. In 2004 José Martinez and others were  
19 arrested in Lee County, Georgia with approximately 1  
20 kilogram of cocaine. As a result of this arrest, based on  
21 the investigation at the time, José Martinez's sister,  
22 Aracley Rivera -- I believe I'm pronouncing her first name  
23 correctly -- was kidnapped. She was kidnapped by two  
24 other Hispanic males that were flown in, I believe, from  
25 Texas and taken to Atlanta, Georgia.

1           Based on the investigative efforts at the time, she  
2 was recovered either that evening or the next day. But it  
3 was during her kidnapping, the two guys that were  
4 kidnapping her were asking where is José? Where is  
5 Sergio? Where is the money? Something along those  
6 lines.

7   **Q.**    And who is Sergio?

8   **A.**    José Martinez's brother.

9   **Q.**    Was another call between José Martinez and Andrew  
10 Carter intercepted on September 2nd, 2014 at approximately  
11 7:48 PM? I believe this would be Government's Exhibit 3?

12   **A.**    Yes, ma'am.

13   **Q.**    And what was the session number for this call?

14   **A.**    The session number is 939. It's an incoming call  
15 from José Martinez and Andrew Carter on September 2nd,  
16 2014.

17   (Video playing at this time).

18   BY MS. BOWEN:

19   **Q.**    Agent Luke, again based on your training and  
20 experience and your knowledge of this investigation, the  
21 reference to "having another 11 in another hour", what is  
22 that referring to?

23   **A.**    They are making a reference to 11 -- reference to  
24 manufacturing powdered cocaine into crack cocaine. They  
25 are saying they took 11 grams of good product and

1 manufactured it and it came back to be 19 grams. So it  
2 increased in product. As you increase your product you  
3 increase your profitability.

4 **Q.** And was that due to better quality cocaine?

5 **A.** Yes.

6 **Q.** And was that discussed between them on this call?

7 **A.** It was.

8 **Q.** Now, the reference that José Martinez makes to his  
9 paw-in-law depositing money into his account, during your  
10 investigation, were you able to identify the individual to  
11 whom José Martinez referred to as his paw-in-law?

12 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

13 **Q.** And is this the only call on which José Martinez  
14 refers to his paw-in-law?

15 **A.** No, ma'am.

16 **Q.** And when he references his paw-in-law is it within  
17 the context of either funding or moving drug proceeds or  
18 drugs?

19 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

20 MR. HAUGABROOK: I'm going to object to that,  
21 Your Honor. Your Honor, I think what counsel is asking  
22 this agent to testify about is speculative in this case.  
23 We're looking at the transcript, we just heard the  
24 conversation. This transcription said that he borrowed  
25 some money from paw-in-law to put into an account. This

1 Agent has been talking about or testifying about cash  
2 money. Cocaine that has been sold for cash. Nothing  
3 about an account. So I think for him to now speculate  
4 about money he got from paw-in-law to put in an account is  
5 certainly speculative. If we're going to buy cocaine  
6 we're not putting it on a credit card. We're not putting  
7 it on a debit card. So I think at this point that's very  
8 speculative, Your Honor, as to what putting it into an  
9 account means.

10 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, may I rephrase the  
11 question?

12 THE COURT: Sure.

13 BY MS. BOWEN:

14 **Q.** Agent Luke, I'm not asking you to interpret this  
15 particular phrase, "my paw-in-law to deposit into my  
16 account". Throughout your investigation, surveillance,  
17 the intercepted communications as a whole, did you  
18 intercept or other agents intercept communications or  
19 surveil activities of José Martinez and Juan Sanchez  
20 Hidalgo or paw-in-law in the context of funding or moving  
21 proceeds and drugs?

22 **A.** We did. To include -- I know there is one  
23 conversation where money was being taken to an account by  
24 José Martinez in Cordele, Georgia. I have not been able  
25 to identify if that's an actual bank account or if the

1 term account refers to somebody's stash of money. I'm not  
2 sure.

3 **Q.** Okay. I'm going to direct your attention to a call  
4 that took place -- rather ask you, did another call take  
5 place and was intercepted between José Martinez and Andrew  
6 Carter on September 4th, 2014 in the afternoon at  
7 approximately 2:39 PM?

8 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

9 **Q.** And what is the session number for this call?

10 **A.** The session number is 1355. It is an incoming call  
11 from José Martinez to Andrew Carter.

12 (Audio playing at this time).

13 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, I'm going to pause the  
14 call. There may be a problem.

15 THE COURT: I'm having trouble -- I'm looking  
16 at Government's Exhibit 4, right, the transcript?

17 WITNESS LUKE: If I might Judge?

18 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

19 WITNESS LUKE: On the synopsis both parties  
20 conversations pick up in a minute and that's when the  
21 transcriber started transcribing the call.

22 THE COURT: We haven't gotten to it yet?

23 WITNESS LUKE: Yes, sir, I think if you let it  
24 play for --

25 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead.

1 (Audio playing at this time)

2 BY MS. BOWEN:

3 **Q.** Agent Luke, for clarification is there a portion of  
4 the start of the call in which Andrew Carter's voice is  
5 the only voice audible?

6 **A.** Yes, ma'am. There's a malfunction in the system  
7 where it's not picking up the other line and then it picks  
8 it up part of the way through the call.

9 **Q.** And it picks up when José Martinez is asking Andrew  
10 Carter about how much he's got left?

11 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

12 **Q.** And what was he referring?

13 **A.** How many kilograms he has left and he indicates that  
14 he has one and a half.

15 **Q.** And that was also several numerical references, I  
16 believe, 34, 44 and 6,000 and 1,100. What are these  
17 references to?

18 **A.** Yes, ma'am. The 34 is in reference to \$34,000.  
19 Now, the 1,100 and 1025 they are discussing Andrew Carter  
20 is planning on selling an ounce of cocaine for \$1,100  
21 which is a common value for an ounce of cocaine. But due  
22 to its poor quality he was selling some for 1025 or \$1,025  
23 and was thus going to take a loss of \$6,000 off the  
24 cocaine they had.

25 **Q.** And based on your surveillance and investigation at

1 this point why were José Martinez and Andrew Carter  
2 gathering up money?

3 **A.** They were trying to purchase more cocaine.

4 **Q.** Moving forward to September 10, 2014, what events  
5 occur on this day relevant to these three individuals and  
6 the drug trafficking organization?

7 **A.** Yes, ma'am. On September 10th we received  
8 intercepted calls that James Waters was traveling from  
9 Atlanta, Georgia from picking up a large quantity of  
10 cocaine. We established surveillance on the interstate  
11 and believe that James Waters would be traveling down and  
12 we knew what his vehicle was. We also --

13 THE COURT: Who was?

14 WITNESS LUKE: James Waters. James Waters is a  
15 -- father-in-law would not be the right word. But he is  
16 the father of Latoris Waters who is the girlfriend of  
17 Andrew Carter.

18 BY MS. BOWEN:

19 **A.** During the intercepted calls we also learned -- and  
20 this was between José Martinez and Andrew Carter -- that  
21 José Martinez's father-in-law was following James Waters.  
22 He was complaining or the father-in-law was complaining  
23 about how James Waters was driving thus relaying it back  
24 to Andrew Carter, so Andrew Carter to relay it back to  
25 James Waters.

1           We established surveillance on the timeline based on  
2 what James Waters was telling Andrew Carter on the phone.  
3 We did identify James Waters traveling south on the  
4 interstate, and we were looking for the vehicles following  
5 James Waters. Well, a vehicle following James Waters was  
6 a light blue Honda Odyssey minivan driven by an older  
7 Hispanic male. This is the same minivan that we later  
8 encountered multiple times during this investigation.

9           **Q.**    And I believe you mentioned this just a moment ago,  
10 but the intercepted communication surveillance were  
11 consistent with this delivery of cocaine from Atlanta down  
12 to the Tifton, Georgia area?

13           **A.**    Well, they traveled to 1211 CS Powell which is  
14 Omega, Colquitt County, Georgia, the residence of Maurice  
15 Todd Carter. Based on the surveillance that we had at the  
16 time Andrew Carter was present, Maurice Todd Carter was  
17 present and José Martinez indicated on the phone call that  
18 he would be on his way over.

19           Well, in regards to that timeframe a black Chevrolet  
20 Spark or a small car like a Chevrolet Spark arrived and we  
21 knew that vehicle to be utilized by José Martinez and it  
22 was parked at his residence. The car arrives and pulls  
23 behind the rear trailer of 1211 CS Powell.

24           Now, at 1211 CS Powell there are two trailers at  
25 this residence. The front trailer I would say is the

1 living quarters of Maurice Todd Carter. It's furnished,  
2 there are beds and there are people leaving there. The  
3 rear trailer is near the wood line and it is unfurnished  
4 and is in poor shape, to say the least. But inside that  
5 trailer, when we subsequently did our search warrants and  
6 our intercepted communications indicated this, along with  
7 intelligence we were receiving, we found where they were  
8 breaking down kilograms of cocaine at this rear trailer.

9 Now, I say that to -- the black Chevrolet Spark that  
10 arrived at 1211 CS Powell pulled to the rear of this  
11 trailer. So we couldn't see who was driving but they went  
12 to the rear trailer and stayed there for a period of time.

13 **Q.** One of those calls that I think you just testified  
14 to, in connection with that pattern of activity, took  
15 place on September 11th, 2014 in the afternoon. If my  
16 military time is correct, about 1:30. What is that  
17 session number?

18 **A.** Yes, ma'am. Government's Exhibit 5, session number  
19 3033. It's an incoming call from José Martinez to Andrew  
20 Carter and it occurred at 1:29 PM or 1329.

21 THE COURT: Ms. Bowen, just for clarification  
22 and the record, before we leave Government's 4,  
23 Government's 4 consists of four pages but the transcript  
24 as it relates to Government's 1 discovered the first page  
25 and a half of Government's Exhibit 4; is that correct?

1 MS. BOWEN: Yes, I believe that is correct, if  
2 I understand you correctly, sir.

3 THE COURT: Well, the Court will not consider  
4 the rest of about two and a half pages of Government's 4?  
5 Does everybody follow that? Wait a minute, the Agent has  
6 told me it's the same. Well, the one difference I see is  
7 there is some parenthetical that looks to me to be more  
8 conclusory. It's not in the first page and a half. So to  
9 put everybody's mind at ease the Court will just consider  
10 the first page and a half.

11 MS. BOWEN: And, Your Honor, I appreciate you  
12 helping me get that sorted. While we have a break in the  
13 testimony of Agent Luke I believe (inaudible) are in need  
14 of a break.

15 THE COURT: Sure. Let's see, it's 3:30. I  
16 guess we've been going an hour and a half. Let's try to  
17 limit it to five, six or seven minutes but we will recess  
18 for six or seven minutes.

19 (RECESS)

20 THE COURT: Ms. Bowen, I'm just looking at my  
21 documents. I've got 5, 6, 7 and 9. I don't seem to have  
22 8.

23 MS. BOWEN: Okay. I'll have to rectify that.  
24 I have copious copies, hopefully of the right document.

25 THE COURT: All right, I think we've got

1 everybody back. Ms. Bowen, you may proceed.

2 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, I believe we were just  
3 about to play Government's Exhibit 5 which is call session  
4 3033, at this time.

5 (Audio playing at this time)

6 BY MS. BOWEN:

7 Q. Agent Luke, at the beginning of that call both  
8 Andrew Carter and José Martinez refer to 5, a quantity of  
9 5. Based on your experience and your knowledge of this  
10 case what are they referring to?

11 A. Yes, ma'am. Like I previously testified to on  
12 September 10th we received a shipment of cocaine that  
13 James Waters drove. They are referring to he had sold 5  
14 kilograms of cocaine. José Martinez was astonished,  
15 that's why he said "God dog". That's a reference to 5  
16 kilograms of cocaine being sold.

17 Q. And resulting in 5 kilograms of profits from the  
18 sale?

19 A. Yes, ma'am.

20 Q. And is there some discussion about money being, I  
21 guess, sent up the road?

22 A. Yes, ma'am.

23 Q. And who was going to do this and to whom were they  
24 going to be delivering this drug money, if you know?

25 A. Yes, ma'am. That call indicates that José Martinez

1 states that he's going to send the money with his  
2 paw-in-law and it's going to Fatman or Fatboy.

3 **Q.** And I believe there is some conversation about the  
4 wrapping of I guess -- well, rather I should ask you, what  
5 was going to be wrapped in these wrappers?

6 **A.** Yes, ma'am. Kilograms of cocaine. Just outside  
7 this case and inside this case you'll have a trademark or  
8 some kind of marketing on the kilogram of cocaine so you  
9 can know what the quality of that cocaine is. In this  
10 instance that are referring to 1 kilogram that has gold,  
11 one has Adidas and one has a scorpion. The conversation  
12 indicating the gold kilogram is the one they want, it's  
13 the better quality. And we heard that several times  
14 during the course of the wire intercepts, that the gold  
15 kilogram or the kilogram that had the gold marking on it  
16 was the good cocaine.

17 **Q.** Did you also obtain a court order for José  
18 Martinez's text messages?

19 **A.** I did.

20 **Q.** And were any of those text messages relevant to José  
21 Martinez's father-in-law and his activity in this drug  
22 trafficking organization?

23 **A.** Yes, ma'am. We received a window of text messages  
24 associated with José Martinez's phone. His telephone  
25 number is 256-307-3559. On September 10th, 2014 at 11:22

1 -- now this text message was in Spanish and has been  
2 translated, but it was from a number that we associated  
3 with Fatboy/Fatman. And the text message states -- this  
4 is from Fatman --

5 MR. HAUGABROOK: Your Honor, before we move any  
6 further with his testimony have we been provided a  
7 transcript of what the Agent is referring to?

8 MS. BOWEN: There isn't going to be any  
9 transcription offered of this. It's going to be the  
10 testimony of the Agent as to the contents of the text  
11 message relevant to the conduct of this Defendant, that  
12 being Juan Sanchez Hidalgo. And really Jose Martinez and  
13 Andrew Carter.

14 MR. HAUGABROOK: Well, if I understand the  
15 Agent's testimony is it's -- the text messages were in  
16 Spanish?

17 WITNESS LUKE: They were.

18 MR. HAUGABROOK: And I don't believe this Agent  
19 transcribed any text messages from his testimony.

20 THE COURT: Well, he's testifying, I suppose,  
21 based on what he has been told by another agent or an  
22 interpreter.

23 WITNESS LUKE: That's correct, Judge.

24 THE COURT: I'll allow it.

25 MS. BOWEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

1 BY MS. BOWEN:

2 **A.** Again, this was a text message on September 10th at  
3 11:22. It's stating this is from Fatboy or a telephone  
4 number we believe associated with Fatboy, to let him know  
5 when his father-in-law leaves. In reference to let Fatboy  
6 know when José Martinez's father-in-law leaves.

7 **Q.** And that was during the timeframe that you just  
8 previously testified to when we played, I believe, call  
9 sessions 1355 and 33 for the Court?

10 **A.** Yes, ma'am. It was -- additionally it would be  
11 September 10, 2014 surveillance of James Waters and Juan  
12 Hidalgo Sanchez following James Waters back from Atlanta,  
13 Georgia.

14 **Q.** I'm going to direct your attention forward a little  
15 bit in time to September 17th, 2014. Was another phone  
16 call intercepted between José Martinez and Andrew Carter  
17 on that date?

18 **A.** September 17th?

19 **Q.** Yes, sir.

20 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

21 **Q.** And what's the session number of that call?

22 **A.** Government Exhibit 6, session number 4360 occurred  
23 on 8:32 AM. It is an outgoing call from Andrew Carter to  
24 José Martinez.

25 (Audio playing at this time)

1 BY MS. BOWEN:

2 **Q.** Agent Luke on this call session 4360, Government's  
3 Exhibit 6, the reference again on numerical to  
4 eight-and-a-half to nine-and-a-half. Based on your  
5 experience and knowledge in the case, do you know what  
6 José Martinez was referring to?

7 **A.** Well, they are talking about getting that quantity  
8 of cocaine back. They're talking about eight-and-a-half,  
9 nine-and-a-half kilograms of cocaine.

10 **Q.** Later in the call there is a statement by José  
11 Martinez that says he said he needs for us to send two  
12 tomorrow, man. Is that again a reference to two kilos of  
13 cocaine?

14 **A.** No, ma'am. It's a reference to sending the money  
15 for two kilograms of cocaine.

16 **Q.** And who is going to be sent with that money?

17 **A.** José Martinez's paw-in-law, his father-in-law is  
18 going to deliver the money.

19 **Q.** And before we get to them, was there subsequently, I  
20 believe on the day of September 19th, two calls close in  
21 time in the morning hours between José Martinez and  
22 Andrew Carter related to getting together the money for  
23 two kilos of cocaine to be sent to Atlanta?

24 **A.** Yes, ma'am. There is one call that is session  
25 number 4803 and it occurred at 8:38 AM on 9/9/2014 and was

1 followed up by session number 4811 that occurred on 9/19  
2 (inaudible) at 9:00 AM. In essence this is two  
3 communications between Andrew Carter and José Martinez  
4 about 22 minutes apart. The first call and then a second  
5 call.

6 **Q.** And before we play call 4811, the government is not  
7 going to play call 4803. I'm going to ask Agent Luke a  
8 couple of questions that will put that call into context.  
9 Agent Luke, math is certainly not my strong suit but does  
10 the call session 4803 put into context perhaps the money  
11 that was going to be put in, if you will, by paw-in-law to  
12 make that two kilo price?

13 **A.** Yes, ma'am. That call is 4803 that occurred at 8:38  
14 AM was between Andrew Carter and José Martinez. And  
15 Andrew Carter is saying he gave him 30, in reference to  
16 30,000 dollars. And José Martinez saying, you know, I got  
17 17 or 18,000. He refers to the term 17 or 18 as a  
18 numerical value. I'm just saying, you know in call 4811  
19 that we'll hear in just a minute, they are trying to get  
20 their money up for two kilograms of cocaine.

21 Subsequently when I interviewed José Martinez and  
22 Andrew Carter a kilogram of cocaine was costing José  
23 Martinez \$36,000. A kilogram of cocaine was costing  
24 Andrew Carter \$39,000. So if you take José Martinez's  
25 kilogram price of \$36,000 and times it by two you end up

1 with \$72,000. Well, if you take Andrew Carter's \$30,000  
2 he's giving, José Martinez's 17 or 18 -- we'll say in this  
3 case \$18,000 that he is giving -- and so you have a  
4 difference of 24,000 that was unaccounted for.

5 **Q.** And I believe how that difference is made up will be  
6 eliminated by playing Government's Exhibit 7 which is  
7 called 4811. Will you, please, tell the Court the time  
8 and date of that session call?

9 **A.** Yes, ma'am. It session number 4811. Again it's  
10 September 19th, 2014 at 9 AM. It's an incoming call from  
11 José Martinez to Andrew Carter.

12 **Q.** And before I play this call; the call that you just  
13 testified to in regards to Andrew Carter having 30 and  
14 José Martinez having 17 or 18 was call 4803. And when did  
15 that call occur in relation to call 4811?

16 **A.** 8:38 AM or 22 minutes prior.

17 (Audio playing at this time)

18 BY MS. BOWEN:

19 **Q.** Moving forward in time approximately a week to  
20 September 24th and 25th, what activities were taking place  
21 based upon your investigation, surveillances and  
22 intercepted communications among these three individuals  
23 in the drug trafficking organizations?

24 **A.** Yes, ma'am. On September 19th, if I could add  
25 something to that call?

1       **Q.**     Yes.

2       **A.**     On September 19th, based on this intercepted  
3 communication, we had established -- and others -- we  
4 established surveillance on Juan Hidalgo Sanchez's  
5 residence and his blue in color Honda Odyssey minivan.  
6 And we knew that it was going to be traveling to Atlanta  
7 based on these calls. So we observed this vehicle leave  
8 it's residence there on Highway 125 in Tifton, Georgia and  
9 traveled to Omega to 128 Meadows Drive, the residence of  
10 José Martinez. It stopped for a period of time and then  
11 traveled back to his residence before traveling towards  
12 the interstate. When Juan Hidalgo Sanchez, who we  
13 identified him as the driver, stopped on the on ramp to  
14 get on the interstate he sat on the side of the road for  
15 approximately five minutes, for a short period of time.  
16 And to me he could have been texting or could have been  
17 doing anything, but it was a way to determine if  
18 surveillance officers were following him.

19                    MR. HAUGABROOK: Objection, Your Honor. I'm  
20 going to object. Now, I understand this Agent's past  
21 history and experience in training, but to speculate as to  
22 why someone pulled to the side of the road and may have  
23 been doing, Your Honor, I think is a stretch.

24                    THE COURT:     Sustained.

25                    BY MS. BOWEN:

1       **A.**     He traveled, he left Tifton, Georgia traveling north  
2     on I-75. In the Atlanta, Georgia area the surveillance  
3     team that was following him lost him.

4       **Q.**     Thank you. Now moving forward to September 24th and  
5     25th, I believe you were about to tell us about what the  
6     investigation revealed of the activities that were taking  
7     place between those two dates?

8       **A.**     Yes, ma'am. On September 24th and 25th Andrew  
9     Carter was trying to provide money to José Martinez. They  
10    were gathering up their funds to make additional purchases  
11    of cocaine from Fatboy in Atlanta, Georgia.

12      **Q.**     And do Government's Exhibits 8 and 9 eliminate this  
13    activity?

14      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

15      **Q.**     And will you, please, identify the two session  
16    numbers by date and time and session number of both calls?

17      **A.**     Yes, ma'am. Government's Exhibit Number 8 is  
18    session number 5673. It occurred on September 24, 2014  
19    at the 1741, which is 5:41 PM. Government's Exhibit  
20    Number 9 at session number 5728, that occurred on  
21    September 25th, 2014 at 11:07 AM. It is an incoming  
22    call from José Martinez to Andrew Carter. And just  
23    for clarity, session number 5673 that occurred on  
24    September 24th is an incoming call from José Martinez  
25    to Andrew Carter.

1       **Q.**       Thank you. Could we play those calls now.

2       (Audio playing at this time)

3       BY MS. BOWEN:

4       **Q.**       Agent Luke, before listening to session 5728, the  
5       discussion about my paw-in-law's paper money and then my  
6       paw-in-law and then, "we threw with him". The phrase  
7       "threw with him" can you add any additional relevance  
8       pertinent to what was going on at this time in that  
9       phrase? I believe it's spelled in the transcription  
10      T-H-R-E-W, is it. And if the answer is no -- My question  
11      was not very articulately phrased, however, I'm just  
12      curious about that phraseology?

13      **A.**       The conversation is saying mine and my paw-in-law  
14      talking about José and his paw-in-law, had they got their  
15      money together, their paper money and he's fixing to send  
16      it on to Fatboy. There is also conversation where José  
17      Martinez saying his driver, which is different than his  
18      paw-in-law, won't be able to go to get the cocaine back  
19      and was asking Andrew Carter if his father-in-law if he  
20      can come and bring the cocaine back.

21      **Q.**       Thank you for answering my poorly phrased question,  
22      I appreciate that. So, we've already established 5728  
23      that call and listen to it which is Government's Exhibit  
24      9, your father-in-law's description.

25       (Audio playing at this time).

1 BY MS. BOWEN:

2 **Q.** Agent Luke, that call we were just listening to, the  
3 transcription which is Government's Exhibit 9, session  
4 number 5728, that took place on the morning of September  
5 25th, 2014?

6 **A.** Yes, ma'am. That call was at 11:07 AM.

7 **Q.** And was surveillance established on José Martinez  
8 and Juan Sanchez Hidalgo that morning as well?

9 **A.** It was.

10 **Q.** And what did surveillance show in relation to this  
11 call and the activity?

12 **A.** Yes, ma'am. Surveillance indicated José Martinez  
13 and Jessica Tellez they were located at Flash Foods gas  
14 station in Tifton, Georgia in a white in color Ford F-250,  
15 at approximately 11:50. Or prior to 11:50, Juan Hidalgo  
16 Sanchez arrives at the Flash Food gas station in a blue in  
17 color Honda Odyssey minivan, the same one we had  
18 previously observed during this surveillance. Jessica  
19 Tellez obtains a bag from the white F-250 and puts it in  
20 the vehicle of Juan Hidalgo Sanchez, the blue Honda  
21 Odyssey. Both vehicles were observed departing around  
22 11:50 AM from the Flash Foods and traveling towards the  
23 interstate to travel north on I-75.

24 **Q.** And did surveillance follow them as well?

25 **A.** Yes.

1 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, may I approach the  
2 witness?

3 THE COURT: You may.

4 BY MS. BOWEN:

5 Q. Agent Luke, do you recognize what I just handed you  
6 and marked Government's Exhibit Number 13?

7 A. Yes, ma'am. Government's Exhibit Number 13 is a  
8 photograph depicting José Martinez and Jessica Tellez in  
9 the white F-250 as the vehicle is right now being driven  
10 by José Martinez and it's being followed by the blue in  
11 color Honda Odyssey van driven by Juan Hidalgo Sanchez.  
12 This is right at the interstate on ramp traveling north on  
13 I-75.

14 Q. And is it a fair and accurate depiction of those  
15 events that you just recounted?

16 A. Yes, ma'am.

17 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, I tender Government's  
18 Exhibit 13.

19 THE COURT: What was the date of the  
20 photograph?

21 WITNESS LUKE: September 25th about 11:52.

22 THE COURT: Any objection?

23 MS. WILLIAMS: No objection.

24 MR. HAUGABROOK: No objection, Your Honor.

25 MR. WALKER: No objection, Your Honor.

**1** THE COURT: Government's 13 is admitted.

2 | BY MS. BOWEN:

3 Q. Agent Luke, in Government's Exhibit 13 we see that  
4 the Ford F-250 you indicated was occupied by José Martinez  
5 and Jessica Tellez and the blue Odyssey minivan occupied  
6 by Juan Sanchez Hidalgo is in the back. Is the position  
7 or are the drivers of those vehicles changed?

8       A.     Yes, ma'am. Before José Martinez's vehicle, I  
9     guess, probably left the city limits of Tifton, Georgia on  
10    the interstate it pulled over on the side of the road off  
11    an off ramp and the drivers changed. Jessica Tellez got  
12    in the driver's seat and José Martinez got in the  
13    passenger's seat. And then both vehicles traveled north  
14    on the interstate with Juan Hidalgo Sanchez's vehicle  
15    being the lead vehicle and now José Martinez's vehicle  
16    being the follow vehicle or the second vehicle.

17 Q. And were traffic stops eventually executed on both  
18 of those vehicles?

19 A. Yes, ma'am.

20 Q. And was Mr. Juan Sanchez Hidalgo the sole occupant  
21 of the blue mini Odyssey van?

22 A. Yes, ma'am.

23 Q. And what was inside of the van?

**24**      **A.**      Yes, ma 'am.

25 THE COURT: For clarity this is the traffic

1 stop that took place on September 25?

2 WITNESS LUKE: Yes, sir.

3 BY MS. BOWEN:

4 **A.** THE WITNESS: This is surveillance -- we surveilled  
5 them leaving Tifton, Georgia. The wire intercepts  
6 indicated they were traveling to Atlanta, Georgia to make  
7 payment for cocaine. And we surveilled them to Crisp  
8 County, Georgia and initiated a traffic stop around exit  
9 92 on I-75 northbound. Inside of Juan Hidalgo Sanchez's  
10 vehicle there was approximately \$225,973 and two cellular  
11 phones. This US currency was in a duffel bag in the  
12 vehicle.

13 **Q.** Before we talk about the occupants and the contents  
14 of the Ford F-250, containing the two other individuals,  
15 I'm going to ask you about another exhibit.

16 MS. BOWEN: If I may approach, Your Honor?

17 THE COURT: Yes.

18 BY MS. BOWEN:

19 **Q.** Agent Luke, do you recognize what's marked for  
20 identification as Government's Exhibit 14?

21 **A.** Yes, ma'am. Government's Exhibit 14 is a photograph  
22 of the interior of Juan Hidalgo Sanchez's Honda Odyssey  
23 minivan that depicts a duffel bag in the center console  
24 area that contained the US currency.

25 **Q.** And is that photograph a fair and accurate depiction

1 of the contents of Mr. Hidalgo's minivan at the time of  
2 the traffic stop on September 25th, 2014?

3 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

4 **Q.** And that is a duffel bag that was given to him by  
5 Jessica Martinez earlier that day at the Flash Foods?

6 **A.** Well, it's a duffel bag similar to the bag that we  
7 saw. It's the only bag we located in the vehicle. So I  
8 believe it is, yes, ma'am.

9 **Q.** And it contained, to be precise, the \$225,973?

10 **A.** Yes, ma'am, I believe so.

11 **Q.** What was seized from the vehicle, the Ford F-250,  
12 that white truck?

13 **A.** Yes, ma'am. There was approximately \$4,855 of US  
14 currency in the vehicle, a small amount of cocaine. I'll  
15 say an eight ball or less -- An eight ball is 3.5 grams --  
16 and four electronic devices to include cellular phones and  
17 one iPad, I believe.

18 **Q.** And who were the occupants of that vehicle?

19 **A.** The driver was Jessica Tellez and the passenger was  
20 José Martinez.

21 **Q.** And after José Martinez and Juan Sanchez Hidalgo  
22 were taken into custody was Andrew Carter also arrested  
23 later that date?

24 **A.** He was.

25 **Q.** And how did he react upon encountering law

1 enforcement?

2 **A.** Yes, ma'am. The deputy at the Tift County Sheriff's  
3 office approached Andrew Carter at the Love's gas station  
4 there in Tifton, Georgia, which Love's is a truck stop gas  
5 station. As they approached Andrew Carter he fled on foot  
6 from his vehicle and he ran through the entrance of the  
7 gas station, ran through the exit of the gas station, kind  
8 of like he was running straight through, and was  
9 apprehended behind the store after fleeing. Located on  
10 his person was approximately 28 grams of powder and crack  
11 cocaine, two cellular phones were recovered. I believe  
12 one on his person and one in the path that he ran through  
13 the store, and approximately \$2,730 in cash was recovered.

14 **Q.** After he was arrested did Mr. Martinez make any  
15 statements to you?

16 **A.** He did.

17 **Q.** What do those statements say relevant to the  
18 activities taking place on these three individuals and the  
19 drug trafficking organization?

20 **A.** Yes, ma'am. He indicated he wanted to cooperate  
21 with our investigation. He stated that he believed there  
22 was 150 to \$180,000 in US currency in Juan Hidalgo  
23 Sanchez's vehicle. The money was payment for cocaine  
24 (unintelligible) "Fatboy". He provided additional  
25 identifiers of Fatboy. He said that a kilogram of cocaine

1 cost him 36,000 to \$36,500. Juan Hidalgo Sanchez was sent  
2 last week to carry currency to Atlanta, Georgia. Juan  
3 Hidalgo Sanchez usually drives the money to Atlanta, or  
4 wherever they transport cocaine, back to southwest  
5 Georgia. He indicated there was a half a kilogram of  
6 cocaine at Maurice Todd Carter's residence which was 1211  
7 CS Powell Road and that Andrew Carter currently owed him  
8 money, approximately 14 to \$15,000.

9 **Q.** Did he also mention, that being Mr. José Martinez,  
10 did he mention Tyler Johnson?

11 **A.** No. He mentioned an individual named Tyler. I  
12 asked him a question about firearms, does he know where  
13 members of the corridor (phonetically) organization  
14 maintains their farms. And he directed my attention to an  
15 individual name Tyler which I was previously aware of.  
16 Tyler Johnson was a victim of a homicide, a drug-related  
17 homicide in February 2014, if I recall correctly. Tyler  
18 Johnson lived catty cornered from 1569 Georgia Avenue  
19 Omega, Georgia, which is the residence of Sarah Carter.

20 He indicated that during that time the firearms were  
21 being maintained in the attic or the roof of this  
22 residence.

23 **Q.** Did he also provide you with, I guess, the hierarchy  
24 that would determine his supplier of cocaine?

25 **A.** Yes, ma'am. He indicated that there were at least

1 two individuals above Fatboy or Fatman, one individual  
2 named Texas and the other individual named Poncho. We  
3 recorded phone calls to Fatman, to delay the delivery of  
4 the US currency that was traveling northbound. And during  
5 that recorded conversation we told him we'll bring him the  
6 money on September 26th, 2014.

7 **Q.** And on September 26th, 2014 did members of law  
8 enforcement make contact with an individual known as  
9 Fatboy who was later identified as Juan Pubalo Cuevas?

10 **A.** Yes, ma'am. At the time we believe we knew the  
11 location of his residence. José Martinez provided us  
12 with the actual apartment number where he lived at. So  
13 agents in Atlanta made contact and obtained consent to  
14 search his residence. During the search of his residence  
15 approximately \$10,000 of US currency were recovered.  
16 A handgun and a vacuum sealer, scales or a scale, a  
17 digital scale, and a large number of small rubber bands  
18 similar to the wrappings of US currency in the drug  
19 trade.

20 **Q.** And did Mr. Cuevas also provide law enforcement with  
21 a false or an alias --

22 **A.** He did.

23 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, may I approach the  
24 witness?

25 THE COURT: You may.

1 BY MS. BOWEN:

2 **Q.** Agent Luke, do you recognize what's marked for  
3 identification as Government's Exhibit number 15?

4 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

5 **Q.** And what is it a photograph of?

6 **A.** It's a photograph of items that were removed from  
7 Fatman's apartment on September 26th, 2014.

8 **Q.** And is it a fair and accurate depiction of the items  
9 or at least some of the items that were removed from Mr.  
10 Cuevas's apartment?

11 **A.** Yes, ma'am. It depicts a handgun, a scale, and  
12 rubber bands and a roll of vacuum sealed plastic.

13 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, if I've not done so  
14 already, I'd like to tender 13, 14 and 15.

15 THE COURT: 13 has been admitted. Any  
16 objection to 14 or 15?

17 MS. WILLIAMS: No, Your Honor, not to Mr.  
18 Carter.

19 MR. HAUGABROOK: No, Your Honor.

20 MR. WALKER: No, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: 14 and 15 are admitted.

22 BY MS. BOWEN:

23 **Q.** Okay. Following the contact with Mr. Cuevas, were  
24 search warrants executed after that, on the day prior  
25 during the evening hours of September 25th, 2014 on

1 residences of Andrew Carter and José Martinez?

2 **A.** Yes, ma'am. Multiple search warrants in multiple  
3 counties were executed on September 25th, 2014. One of  
4 the search warrants was located at 186 Lenox Crosland  
5 Road, Omega, Colquitt County, Georgia.

6 THE COURT: Hold on one second, Agent Luke.

7 WITNESS LUKE: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: If you can speak up just a little  
9 bit. Go ahead.

10 WITNESS LUKE: I'm sorry.

11 THE WITNESS: Go ahead.

12 BY MS. BOWEN:

13 **A.** THE WITNESS: 186 Lenox Crosland Road, Omega  
14 Colquitt County, Georgia. This is the residence or  
15 primary residence of Andrew Carter and Latoris Waters.  
16 Located at this residence law enforcement recovered a  
17 handgun, additional scales, kilogram presses. Inside of  
18 the vehicle in the yard, which was a white in color Dodge  
19 dually pick up truck, approximately 2 kilograms of cocaine  
20 were recovered, material to manufacture powder cocaine  
21 into crack cocaine and approximately \$18,000 of US  
22 currency. There was also a stolen four wheeler that was  
23 recovered on the property.

24 MR. HAUGABROOK: A stolen what?

25 WITNESS LUKE: Four wheeler.

1 BY MS. BOWEN:

2 **Q.** And was José Martinez's house also searched?

3 **A.** It was.

4 **Q.** A search warrant, and what items were recovered?

5 **A.** Yes, ma'am. Four vials of steroids and a vacuum  
6 sealer.

7 **Q.** Similarly to Mr. José Martinez, did Andrew Carter  
8 make any statements to you?

9 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

10 **Q.** And what were those statements in relation to his  
11 profit cost of cocaine?

12 **A.** Yes, ma'am. Well, Andrew Carter indicated to me  
13 that his primary source of supply was José Martinez but he  
14 had -- there were two sources of suppliers that José  
15 Martinez had contact with, communication with in Atlanta,  
16 Georgia known by the aliases of Skinny and Fatman. He  
17 provided me with directions to both of their locations  
18 which fit what we had learned in the investigation. He  
19 indicated he was paying \$39,000 for a kilogram of cocaine.  
20 And from the sale of 10 kilograms of cocaine approximately  
21 \$20,000 would be made in profit. Out of those \$20,000,  
22 \$6,500 of this money would be given to José Martinez and  
23 José Martinez's driver would obtain 1 to \$3,000. He  
24 indicated that José Martinez's father-in-law, who drives a  
25 light in color blue minivan, mostly transports money,

1 currency, but has transported cocaine and charges 500 to  
2 \$600 per kilogram of cocaine when he has transported  
3 cocaine.

4 Andrew Carter indicated that José Martinez was  
5 heading to Atlanta to give US currency to Fatman. He  
6 believed it to be about \$155,000 of US currency. He said  
7 the week prior he had sent \$130,000 dollars of US currency  
8 to Fatman through José Martinez.

9 **Q.** Following his arrest and housing at the Tift County  
10 jail did Mr. Carter make use of the jail telephone?

11 **A.** He did.

12 **Q.** And were these telephone calls recorded?

13 **A.** They were.

14 **Q.** And what did you learn from these calls pertinent to  
15 the investigation?

16 **A.** Yes, ma'am. He was directing Latoris Waters, his  
17 girlfriend, to obtain US currency from customers of the  
18 organization who were not arrested. There were  
19 individuals who owed him money from the sale of cocaine  
20 and he was directing her to their location to retrieve  
21 that money.

22 **Q.** Did you also subpoena bank records related to  
23 accounts held by Mr. Juan Sanchez Hidalgo?

24 **A.** Yes, ma'am. When we arrested Juan Hidalgo Sanchez  
25 on his person or in his wallet there were several deposit

1 slips or ATM cards or debit cards. I subpoenaed those  
2 records and learned that at least two of the accounts were  
3 located in El Paso, Texas.

4 MS. BOWEN: That's all the direct examination I  
5 have for Agent Luke, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. Then we'll begin cross  
7 examination. Ms. Williams, we'll start with you on behalf  
8 of Mr. Carter.

9 CROSS EXAMINATION

10 BY MS. WILLIAMS:

11 Q. Agent Luke, you indicated that you work with GBI?

12 A. Yes, ma'am.

13 Q. But that there were other individuals and other  
14 agencies involved with this investigation?

15 A. Yes, ma'am.

16 Q. I think you stated DEA?

17 A. Yes, ma'am.

18 Q. And could you tell me the name of the other  
19 organization, if I could get those?

20 A. Yes, ma'am. Mid South Narcotics Task Force which is  
21 a task force -- which is an individual Sheriff's deputies  
22 made up of Turner, Crisp and Tift County. The Tift County  
23 Sheriff's office, the Cook County Sheriff's office, the  
24 Colquitt County Sheriff's office, I believe is the  
25 agencies that participated in the case.

1       **Q.**    And you stated that this investigation began about  
2   January of 2014; is that correct?

3       **A.**    Yes, ma'am.

4       **Q.**    That you had received a tip from a confidential  
5   source?

6       **A.**    Yes, ma'am.

7       **Q.**    And at that point you set up surveillance; is that  
8   right?

9       **A.**    Yes, ma'am.

10      **Q.**    I wanted to ask you a couple of questions about  
11   Exhibit 10 and 11. They are still photos. Now, are there  
12   any videos associated with Exhibits 10 or 11?

13      **A.**    Yes, ma'am.

14            MS. WILLIAMS: And if I may -- May I approach  
15   the witness so I can show him the exhibits?

16            THE COURT: You may.

17            WITNESS LUKE: There are, yes, ma'am.

18   BY MS. WILLIAMS:

19      **Q.**    So are these photographs from the video?

20      **A.**    Yes, ma'am.

21      **Q.**    So there should be some surveillance video  
22   associated with this investigation?

23      **A.**    Yes, ma'am.

24      **Q.**    And with respect to Exhibit Number 11, I think you  
25   gave a date of May but I didn't get the --

1       **A.**     I think May the 11th.

2       **Q.**     May 11th?

3       **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

4       **Q.**     And there should be a video that corresponds with  
5     this?

6       **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

7       **Q.**     And I believe you stated that this would have been  
8     surveillance of -- is this the Futch Road residence?

9       **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

10      **Q.**     And the photo is a little blurry. Is it because it's  
11     actually coming off of a video as opposed to being an  
12     actual camera photograph?

13      **A.**     I've already answered it's on video, yes, ma'am.

14      **Q.**     Okay. Now, would this surveillance have been done  
15     by someone involved with DEA or the Mid-South Narcotics?

16      **A.**     Which one.

17      **Q.**     From Exhibit 11?

18      **A.**     I believe it was myself or Agent McCook who works in  
19     my office.

20      **Q.**     So you would have been somewhere in the vicinity  
21     watching and recording this?

22      **A.**     Yes, that's an accurate statement.

23      **Q.**     So during the course of this investigation someone  
24     with the various agencies actually set up surveillance and  
25     recorded several -- over the course of several days; is

1 that correct?

2 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

3 **Q.** Could you estimate about how much surveillance video  
4 there may be in this case?

5 **A.** There is a lot.

6 **Q.** When you say a lot, would that be a couple of hours  
7 or are we talking about hundreds of hours?

8 **A.** Hundreds of hours.

9 **Q.** Okay. So you would have done the video surveillance  
10 first, that was the beginning of this investigation; is  
11 that correct?

12 **A.** No, ma'am. I mean, there are several steps I can  
13 take in an investigation. I probably wouldn't have done  
14 the video surveillance first.

15 **Q.** Okay. Well, what was the beginning of this  
16 particular investigation then?

17 **A.** Yes, ma'am, like I told you, we received information  
18 that Andrew Carter was distributing large amounts of  
19 cocaine and that was the beginning of this investigation.

20 **Q.** Did you record -- once you received that tip did you  
21 meet with individuals or are there any kind of  
22 confidential sources that are involved with any hand to  
23 hand transactions with this case?

24 **A.** Not at my direction.

25 **Q.** But there may be with respect to some other officer

1 or agent's direction?

2 **A.** No, ma'am.

3 **Q.** Now you stated that there are some CIs in this case,  
4 correct?

5 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

6 **Q.** But they wouldn't have been involved in hand to hand  
7 transactions?

8 **A.** Not at my direction.

9 **Q.** So they would have just been giving historical  
10 information?

11 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

12 **Q.** Now, after several hundred hours of surveillance  
13 video you actually requested permission to obtain the  
14 wiretap; is that correct?

15 **A.** That's correct.

16 **Q.** And the wiretap would have began when?

17 **A.** End of August, 2014.

18 **Q.** End of August. And how long did it run for?

19 **A.** Right under 30 days. 28 -- It ran for 30 days. It  
20 ran for 30 days or the normal timeframe.

21 **Q.** And today we had an opportunity to actually listen  
22 to some of the calls?

23 **A.** Yes, ma'am, a small portion of the calls.

24 **Q.** Now, with respect to the calls, I note that they  
25 have session numbers. Government's Exhibit Number 2, the

1 session number is identified as 505. What does that  
2 mean?

3 **A.** Yes, ma'am. Every time a call comes in or a call  
4 goes out or a text message comes in or a text message goes  
5 out it has a unique identifier. And that is a unique  
6 identifier for that conversation.

7 **Q.** So that doesn't necessarily mean that that was the  
8 five hundredth and fifth phone call or anything?

9 **A.** No, ma'am.

10 **Q.** Is there any way to determine the order of the phone  
11 calls?

12 **A.** The order? Yes, ma'am. A, they are in session  
13 numbers 1 through 30,000, whatever the end number is would  
14 be one. Two, there is a date and time for every call on  
15 the sheet or on the call itself.

16 **Q.** But the session number, whether it's smaller or  
17 larger doesn't necessarily correspond with the order of  
18 the call?

19 **A.** Yes, ma'am, it does. The larger number, the later  
20 in date. Like call 507 occurred after this call. Call  
21 15,000 occurred sometime after this call or whatever the  
22 numbers may be.

23 **Q.** But it doesn't necessarily mean that that was the  
24 five hundredth and fifth call? Or as Government's Exhibit  
25 Number 3, 939 doesn't necessarily mean that it was the

1 nine hundred and thirty-ninth?

2 **A.** That's correct, yes, ma'am. When you change -- I'm  
3 not an expert with the technology but I think when you  
4 change cell phone towers on your phone it gives you  
5 another number. It is bouncing but that is something that  
6 is above my pay grade.

7 **Q.** Now, did you have an opportunity to listen to all of  
8 the calls associated with this wiretap for the 30 days?

9 **A.** I've listened to a large majority of them. I have  
10 not listened to all of them.

11 **Q.** And how did you determine which calls you listened  
12 to?

13 **A.** Well, there are certain calls that would be  
14 monitored whether it was me or anybody who was on my team  
15 would mark as pertinent. And it's based on their training  
16 and experience, if they think the communication is  
17 relevant to drug trafficking. If they think it is  
18 communication relevant to buying milk and groceries they  
19 would listen to a portion of the call and then minimize  
20 the call or stop listening to the call for a period of  
21 time. And then after that period of time they can start  
22 back listening to the call to determine if the  
23 conversation has changed to say -- the first of the call  
24 was talking about cookies and milk and stuff from the  
25 grocery store but the end of the call was talking about

1       drugs. So they would spot check or spot monitor the call  
2       and if it's still talking about groceries or anything  
3       that's non-criminal the call would be minimized.

4       **Q.**       Now, with respect to the calls that were not  
5       minimized, have you had an opportunity to listen to all of  
6       those?

7       **A.**       Calls that were not minimized or otherwise we would  
8       call them pertinent.

9       **Q.**       Pertinent, correct?

10      **A.**       All of them? No ma'am. A large majority? Yes,  
11       ma'am. But I have not listened to all of them.

12      **Q.**       And my question to you is, how did you determine  
13       which calls you have listened to?

14      **A.**       Well, it depended on if I was on surveillance or not  
15       and I had other monitors telling me what was going on in  
16       the call. You know, I can come back and listen to them,  
17       you know. The calls are saved and so I can come back and  
18       listen to them. So if the monitors at the time indicated  
19       that that call, call 505 they believed it was a relevant  
20       call I would have an opportunity to go back and listen to  
21       it.

22      **Q.**       Now were there times that you were actually one of  
23       the individuals assigned to monitoring the calls?

24      **A.**       Yes, ma'am.

25      **Q.**       And so was that assignment an assignment that

1 rotated with the individuals involved with the  
2 investigation?

**3** **A.** That's correct.

4 Q. Now, you stated that on September the 25th, I  
5 believe, you or an agency actually conducted a search of a  
6 resident in Omega? Or I think there were actually several  
7 searches on the 25th; is that correct?

**8** A. Yes, ma'am, there were. Several in Omega too.

9 Q. And, in particular, you indicated that there was a  
10 search of 186 Lenox Crosland Road, Omega?

11 A. 186 Lenox Crosland Road.

12 Q. And you stated that you attributed that residence to  
13 Mr. Carter; is that right?

**14** A. Yes, ma'am.

15 Q. And you did that based on your surveillance?

16       A.     Surveillance. The power records, I believe, were in  
17     his name. The property records, I believe, were in his  
18     name or his immediate family's name or a combination of.

19 Q. And you did, in fact, go to a magistrate judge and  
20 have a search warrant signed for that residence; is that  
21 correct?

22 A. I went to a federal magistrate judge, yes, ma'am,  
23 and obtained the search warrant.

24 Q. And conducted a search of that residence. You  
25 indicated that you found one handgun; is that right?

1       **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

2       **Q.**     Were there photographs taken of the items that were  
3     located at the residence?

4       **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

5       **Q.**     We just don't have them here today?

6       **A.**     No, ma'am. We didn't introduce them here today.

7       **Q.**     And I believe you said -- so it was just the one  
8     handgun in that residence?

9       **A.**     Yes, ma'am. One hand gun at that -- now, there was  
10    another handgun -- there was an AR-15 rifle located at  
11    6147 Futch Road which is Andrew Carter's previous address.  
12    That address is a Hahira, Cook County address. But at  
13    that residence only one firearm.

14       **Q.**     And do you recall the type of firearm of whether it  
15    was --

16       **A.**     It was a handgun, a semi automatic handgun.

17       **Q.**     Was there anyone at the residence at the time the  
18    search warrant was conducted?

19       **A.**     No, ma'am, I don't believe so.

20       **Q.**     Did you actually participate in that search?

21       **A.**     I went to the house after the search warrant had  
22    been complete, while it was still in law enforcement  
23    custody. But, no, ma'am, was I a part of the team that  
24    did the initial search? No, ma'am.

25       **Q.**     And I think you also said that a press was found?

1       **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

2       **Q.**     And approximately \$18,000?

3       **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

4       **Q.**     Now, you stated that 2 kilograms of cocaine was  
5     found outside the residence; is that correct?

6       **A.**     Yes, ma'am. There were several vehicles outside.

7     One of the vehicles was a Dodge dually truck, white in  
8     color. Inside that vehicle was a back pack that contained  
9     the cocaine.

10      **Q.**     Do you know who that truck is registered to?

11      **A.**     Yes, ma'am. It was registered to individuals in  
12     Grady County, Georgia who indicated to me they had sold  
13     the truck several months prior to a person in Tifton,  
14     Georgia. I think they told me a used car dealer in Tifton  
15     -- or Georgia.

16      **Q.**     So it was not, in fact, registered to Mr. Carter?

17      **A.**     No, ma'am.

18      **Q.**     Now, you stated that Mr. Carter was arrested at a  
19     gas station in Tifton; is that correct?

20      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

21      **Q.**     Were you present at the time of his arrest?

22      **A.**     No, ma'am.

23      **Q.**     And I think you said that -- was it Tift County  
24     Sheriff's?

25      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

1       **Q.**     So they had an active arrest warrant for him?

2       **A.**     No, ma'am.

3       **Q.**     They did not?

4       **A.**     No, ma'am.

5       **Q.**     So they did not have an arrest warrant for him at  
6     the time?

7       **A.**     They did not.

8       **Q.**     They simply were approaching him to speak with him?

9       **A.**     No, they were approaching him to arrest him.

10      **Q.**     Now were they uniformed officers?

11      **A.**     There was a marked patrol car that pulled up behind  
12     this vehicle and there was a plain clothes officer that, I  
13     believe, had his badge around his neck, approaching him.

14      **Q.**     So Mr. Carter was driving in his vehicle and they  
15     performed a traffic stop?

16      **A.**     No, ma'am. He was stopped at the gas pump is what  
17     I'm led to believe.

18      **Q.**     So was he there pumping gas or you don't know?

19      **A.**     I believe he was there pumping gas but I'm not 100  
20     percent sure. But he was there at the gas pumps.

21      **Q.**     Was there anyone else in the vehicle with him?

22      **A.**     I don't believe so.

23      **Q.**     And so were there two different vehicles that  
24     actually pulled up?

25      **A.**     Yes, ma'am. There was a plain clothes officer who

1 approached from the far side of the gas pumps on foot and  
2 while he was approaching there was a marked patrol car  
3 that approached from the rear of Mr. Carter's vehicle.

4 **Q.** And that marked patrol car, did they activate their  
5 blue lights?

6 **A.** I'm not sure, ma'am.

7 **Q.** They approached him and told him that he was under  
8 arrest or you're not sure?

9 **A.** I'm not sure of what they told him. I know he fled.  
10 But I don't know if they said stop Andrew Carter or you're  
11 under arrest. I'm not sure of their commands.

12 **Q.** Okay. So you don't have any additional detail with  
13 respect to his arrest?

14 **A.** No, ma'am, that's it. He fled from both of those  
15 officers. What they said to him, I'm not aware.

16 MS. WILLIAMS: I have no further questions of  
17 this witness.

18 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Walker on behalf of  
19 Mr. Martinez.

20 MR. WALKER: Yes, sir, Your Honor. I have just  
21 a few.

22 CROSS EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. WALKER:

24 **Q.** Agent Luke, we've met before on this case?

25 **A.** Yes, sir.

1       **Q.**     I believe in State Court with Mr. Martinez; is that  
2 correct?

3       **A.**     That's correct.

4       **Q.**     And as I understand it, and correct me if I'm wrong,  
5 you were present when the initial stop was made on Mr.  
6 Martinez's automobile on 75?

7       **A.**     I was.

8       **Q.**     And who else was present during that time?

9       **A.**     Well, for me to give you a complete list I'll have  
10 to review my report. But off the top of my head it was  
11 two Crisp County deputies, Jessica Tellez, Shane Mims and  
12 Chris Ledger (phonetically).

13      **Q.**     And during that time period you had already done an  
14 investigation on Mr. Martinez; is that correct?

15      **A.**     Yes, sir.

16      **Q.**     And you had done background information as it  
17 relates to his family; is that correct?

18      **A.**     Yes, sir, some.

19      **Q.**     And are you from the Tifton area?

20      **A.**     What's your definition of Tifton area?

21      **Q.**     Do you live in Tifton?

22      **A.**     Is that appropriate?

23                    MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, I'm not sure that's  
24 relevant to whether or not these three Defendants would be  
25 factors under the bond statute.

1 MR. WALKER: I'll move on, Your Honor.

2 WITNESS LUKE: I'm from south Georgia.

3 BY MR. WALKER:

4 Q. Are you familiar with the Martinez family prior to  
5 this investigation of Mr. José Martinez?

6 A. Yes, sir, I am.

7 Q. And would it be fair to say that they are a large  
8 family in the Tifton area?

9 A. There are several brothers I'm aware of.

10 Q. Somewhere around 11, 10 to 11 brothers and sisters  
11 of Mr. José Martinez?

12 A. I know there are several. I've had encounters with  
13 at least two of them. Whether there is 11 or not, but I  
14 will agree there are several brothers.

15 Q. And they are a part of the community that they work  
16 there in the Tifton area; is that correct?

17 MS. BOWEN: Objection, Your Honor. I don't  
18 know if Agent Luke can testify to what they do or where  
19 they work or how much they are a part of the community if  
20 he's not aware of even how many there are or to whom it's  
21 being referred. So it's speculative. Unless he knows. I  
22 mean, if he knows.

23 A. I know certain -- I have arrested one of the  
24 brothers, Anrekia Martinez. He was selling stolen  
25 firearms and sold us a stolen sawed off shotgun. I've had

1 contact with Sergio Martinez as a result in that case to  
2 turn over his property to him. I know there is one or two  
3 houses in between Omega and Norman Park, Georgia on 319  
4 that several of them reside at, several of the Martinez  
5 family. How many reside there I'm not sure. I believe  
6 the father resides at one of the houses.

7 **Q.** Aracley Riviera, you're familiar with her, are you  
8 not?

9 **A.** Yes, sir, I am.

10 **Q.** And you investigated her during this investigation  
11 of Mr. Martinez and Mr. Carter?

12 **A.** I spoke with her.

13 **Q.** You spoke with her?

14 **A.** Yes, sir.

15 **Q.** You went to her place of employment, did you not, in  
16 Sumter County?

17 **A.** I did.

18 **Q.** And during that time period you basically told her  
19 employers that she was a member of the Martinez family and  
20 a drug cartel; is that correct?

21 **A.** Yes, sir.

22 **Q.** And you have no evidence that Ms. Riviera is a part  
23 of any cartel, do you?

24 **A.** Well, Ms. Riviera has provided me with non-truthful  
25 statements in reference to her vehicle. The vehicle was

1 being utilized by José Martinez. I don't know what  
2 property or items of value she is maintaining in her  
3 custody for members of that family.

4 **Q.** And you're familiar with Mr. Martinez's wife, Ms.  
5 Tellez, are you not?

6 **A.** Yes, sir, I am.

7 **Q.** And she has two children that attend school in  
8 Tifton, Tift County?

9 **A.** I know they have young children. I think there are  
10 three children. Maybe an older child.

11 **Q.** They attend school there, do they not?

12 **A.** Yes, sir.

13 **Q.** And Mr. Sergio Martinez he works throughout the  
14 Tifton area in agriculture, does he not?

15 **A.** He works in agriculture. Where he works at I'm not  
16 sure.

17 **Q.** And are you familiar -- I think you testified  
18 earlier about Mr. José Martinez being involved in a case  
19 in (unintelligible) County; is that correct?

20 **A.** That's correct.

21 **Q.** And during that time period did you investigate  
22 whether or not he was granted a bond while he was -- those  
23 charges were pending?

24 **A.** I did not.

25 **Q.** And based on your investigation did you ascertain

1 whether or not he appeared for his court appearance?

2 **A.** I did not.

3 **Q.** And during your investigation did you ascertain  
4 whether or not he was actually tried in that case?

5 **A.** Tried or pled guilty. I know what the criminal  
6 history says.

7 **Q.** I believe you stated earlier that there were some  
8 firearms found in this investigation; is that correct?

9 **A.** That's correct.

10 **Q.** None of the firearms listed in this investigation  
11 were found in José Martinez's possession, were there?

12 **A.** That's correct. None were found in his possession.

13 **Q.** And during the traffic stop which led to the  
14 recovery, I believe you said, of an eight ball of cocaine,  
15 there was not a gun in that vehicle, was there?

16 **A.** No, sir.

17 **Q.** And there was not any cash or any type of proceeds  
18 in that vehicle either, was there?

19 **A.** Well there was 4,800 and some odd dollars in that  
20 vehicle.

21 **Q.** And who did you take that from?

22 **A.** It was taken from inside the vehicle.

23 **Q.** Do you recall where at, if it was on Mr. Martinez's  
24 person?

25 **A.** It wasn't on his person.

1       **Q.**    Do you recall where it was located?

2       **A.**    I do not.

3       **Q.**    And during your surveillance did you have or  
4   ascertain any knowledge that a large amount of cash would  
5   be on Mr. Martinez's person that day?

6       **A.**    Yes, sir.

7       **Q.**    And you didn't find any cash on Mr. Martinez other  
8   than that 4,000; is that correct?

9       **A.**    Well because it was -- a bag was taken out at the  
10   Flash Foods. But no, sir, I did not.

11      **Q.**    And as it relates to that bag, you state that it was  
12   a bag similar to the photograph that was presented here  
13   today that was found in Mr. Sanchez's vehicle; is that  
14   correct?

15      **A.**    Yes, sir.

16      **Q.**    Was there, in fact, another bag in the vehicle that  
17   was driven by Ms. Tellez?

18      **A.**    Another bag in the vehicle?

19      **Q.**    Yes, sir.

20      **A.**    Yes, sir, there were several bags in their vehicle.

21      **Q.**    Several bags that resembled the bag that was found  
22   in Mr. Sanchez's automobile?

23      **A.**    I can't say.

24      **Q.**    You can't say?

25      **A.**    Well, I think there were purses. Do they resemble a

1 duffel bag? I can't say.

2 **Q.** Well, were they black in color?

3 **A.** I don't recall.

4 **Q.** You don't recall those but you recall the one that  
5 you say apparently was the bag that Ms. Tellez gave to Mr.  
6 Sanchez; is that right?

7 **A.** Yes, sir. The surveillance office at the time  
8 indicated a duffel bag was exchanged and that that duffel  
9 bag had a large amount of currency in it. It matched the  
10 information that we were receiving from the wire  
11 intercepts.

12 **Q.** Was there a video of that bag, the exchange of that  
13 bag?

14 **A.** No, sir.

15 **Q.** Do you recall what color the bag was?

16 **A.** I didn't. I did not see it.

17 **Q.** And as it relates to these wiretaps who is S.  
18 Gonzales?

19 **A.** Snally (phonetically) Gonzalez. She is a Tift  
20 County Sheriff's office deputy.

21 **Q.** Who is S. Sims?

22 **A.** Shane Mimbs. He is a Tift County Sheriff's office  
23 deputy and also a task force officer with the Drug  
24 Enforcement Administration.

25 **Q.** And as it relates to the -- I think you testified

1 about some text messages that maybe were transcribed or  
2 interpreted in Spanish; is that right?

3 **A.** Yes, sir.

4 **Q.** And what is the origin of those text messages? What  
5 phone do they generate from, do you know?

6 **A.** Yes, sir, from the telephone number we had  
7 associated with José Martinez.

8 **Q.** And do you have in your -- throughout your  
9 investigation you have a copy of those text messages?

10 **A.** Yes, sir. I wrote a search warrant, applied for it  
11 in this court, provided it to Verizon and they sent me  
12 back a copy.

13 **Q.** And I believe you stated at some point in time that  
14 during one of these wiretaps that Mr. José Martinez  
15 located to Texas; was that correct?

16 **A.** Yes, sir. We only had one wiretap during the  
17 timeframe of the wiretap. He was located in Texas.

18 **Q.** And how did you ascertain that he was located in  
19 Texas?

20 **A.** Based off his communications.

21 **Q.** During your investigation did you ascertain whether  
22 or not Mr. Martinez was a United States citizen?

23 **A.** I believe he is.

24 **Q.** You believe he is?

25 **A.** Yes, sir.

1       **Q.**    He has a GED; is that correct?

2       **A.**    I know I gathered that information when I provided  
3       people with Miranda and I believe that's what he gave me.

4       **Q.**    And that he went to Tift County schools; is that  
5       correct?

6       **A.**    That's correct.

7       **Q.**    And he lived predominantly in Tifton, Georgia the  
8       majority of his life?

9       **A.**    I would be led to believe that since he went to Tift  
10      County schools, except for the timeframe from 2004 until  
11      2011 that he was in the custody of the Department of  
12      Corrections?

13      **Q.**    During the investigation do you ascertain whether or  
14      not Mr. Martinez had a passport?

15      **A.**    I have not.

16      **Q.**    As it relates to -- I don't know if you have a copy  
17      of the exhibits there?

18      **A.**    I do.

19      **Q.**    Exhibit Number 10?

20      **A.**    Yes, sir.

21      **Q.**    And that is, to my understanding, that's from the  
22      video. That's a still shot, correct?

23      **A.**    That's correct.

24      **Q.**    And Mr. Martinez is not anywhere in that photograph  
25      is he?

1       **A.**     His vehicle is right to the right of it.

2       **Q.**     And --

3       **A.**     That's where Andrew Carter is walking towards but  
4 he's not in the video -- or not in the picture, I don't  
5 believe.

6       **Q.**     And the video itself, have you reviewed that video?

7       **A.**     I have.

8       **Q.**     And at any time during that video do you see Mr.  
9 Martinez?

10      **A.**     No, sir, you do not.

11      **Q.**     And so did you see -- I think you said it was a  
12 gold Dodge Durango that was pulled up in that photograph;  
13 is that correct?

14      **A.**     No, sir, I'd did say that. I said it was a gold  
15 Tahoe. Now he also has a white Dodge Durango that has  
16 been observed going to that residence. But at this time,  
17 on this date, it was a gold Tahoe.

18      **Q.**     But you can't visibly see or testify that Mr.  
19 Martinez was there during this time period?

20      **A.**     I don't know who the driver of the vehicle was.

21      **Q.**     And as it relates to Government's Exhibit Number 12,  
22 you're referring to the F-250 or 150?

23      **A.**     I believe it looks like an F-250 to me.

24      **Q.**     And did you determine whose vehicle that was at any  
25 time during your investigation?

**1** **A.** Ms. Riviera's vehicle.

2 Q. And that's the same vehicle in Government's Number  
3 13?

**4**      **A.**      Yes, sir.

5 Q. And as it relates to Government's Number 12, you  
6 never saw Mr. Martinez in that vehicle, did you?

**A.** No, sir. I don't know who the driver was.

10 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Haugabrook on  
11 behalf of Mr. Sanchez Hidalgo.

**12** MR. HAUGABROOK: Thank you, Your Honor.

13 | CROSS EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. HAUGABROOK:

15 Q. Good afternoon, Agent Luke.

16 A. Good afternoon.

17 Q. Please keep that smile on your face. Let me clear  
18 up a couple of things as it relates to when your  
19 investigation began. As I understood it, on cross  
20 examination, you said January of 2014?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. I notice that the indictment says that the  
23 conspiracy though is from January of 2013?

**24**      **A.**      Yes, sir.

**25** Q. Was there anything going on in the calendar year of

1 2013 that was being investigated?

2 **A.** Oh, there was plenty of stuff that was being  
3 investigated in calendar year 2013.

4 **Q.** As it relates to Mr. Hidalgo or any of the other  
5 codefendants in this case?

6 **A.** There was.

7 **Q.** The investigation that was going on in the year  
8 2013, is there surveillance?

9 **A.** There is.

10 **Q.** I presume that it must not have been pertinent since  
11 you didn't prepare to testify to that on today?

12 **A.** Yes, sir. There's several people in this  
13 conspiracy. It has to do with other members of the  
14 conspiracy.

15 **Q.** Let me ask it this way. Your investigation of 2013  
16 or the calendar year 2013 does not involve Mr. Hidalgo,  
17 does it?

18 **A.** No, sir.

19 **Q.** Your investigation that you've testified that began  
20 here -- today -- began in January of 2014, that was the  
21 result of a confidential informant providing some  
22 information; is that correct?

23 **A.** That's correct.

24 **Q.** And that information did not pertain to Mr. Hidalgo,  
25 did it?

1       **A.**    That's correct.

2       **Q.**    And he was not the target of your investigation in  
3       this case, was he?

4       **A.**    No, sir. No, sir.

5       **Q.**    You and I have spoke about this case probably  
6       several times over the past two, three weeks; is that  
7       correct?

8       **A.**    It's been a pleasure.

9       **Q.**    Thank you. And I think you and I last spoke this  
10      past Friday, correct?

11      **A.**    That's correct.

12      **Q.**    And each of our conversations you have described Mr.  
13      Hidalgo's role in this as just a money courier, correct?

14      **A.**    He's mainly a money courier, yes, sir.

15      **Q.**    There is no evidence that you have that he actually  
16      transported any cocaine or crack in this case, it is?

17      **A.**    Well, there's some statements that allude to that  
18      fact. Now, cocaine, I don't know anything about crack.  
19      But the currency that one is shipping from the sale of  
20      cocaine to me is just like shipping cocaine.

21      **Q.**    My question though is that there is no evidence that  
22      Mr. Hidalgo has transported any cocaine in this  
23      conspiracy?

24      **A.**    There are indications of it through witness  
25      interviews that I provided on direct.

1       **Q.**    And I think your testimony was that you interviewed  
2        Andrew Carter?

3       **A.**    Yes, sir.

4       **Q.**    Mr. Carter never told you that Mr. Hidalgo  
5        transported any cocaine, did he?

6       **A.**    He gave me a price on what he would charge per  
7        kilogram.

8       **Q.**    My question though is very specific, Agent. He  
9        never told you that Mr. Hidalgo transported any cocaine,  
10       did he?

11       **A.**    I didn't bring his debriefing with me. I think his  
12       statements were he mostly transports currency --

13       **Q.**    And that's what you and I discussed on Friday?

14       **A.**    That's correct.

15       **Q.**    And you never said anything about Mr. Carter telling  
16       you that Mr. Hidalgo transported any cocaine, did you?

17       **A.**    Well, I told you about the price that he gave me.

18       **Q.**    Again, actually transporting and what someone may  
19       charge to transport --

20       **A.**    Right.

21       **Q.**    -- are two different things, aren't they?

22       **A.**    Right. I was led to believe that he had in the past  
23       based on the price frame.

24       **Q.**    Did Mr. Andrew Carter tell you that he and Mr.  
25       Hidalgo have had any dealings in this case?

1       **A.**     Dealings, I don't think so.

2       **Q.**     So how is it that Mr. Carter would know whether or  
3     not Mr. Hidalgo transported any cocaine?

4       **A.**     I would assume from his conversations with José  
5     Martinez.

6       **Q.**     But that's another assumption?

7       **A.**     That's correct.

8       **Q.**     No evidence, no surveillance to confirm that?

9       **A.**     No, sir.

10      **Q.**     And as it relates to transporting any currency in  
11     this case, certainly we have the stop on September the  
12     25th, 2014, up in the Cordele area, correct?

13      **A.**     That's correct.

14      **Q.**     And there was a duffel bag of money that was in Mr.  
15     Hidalgo's vehicle?

16      **A.**     That's correct.

17      **Q.**     And that money was placed in the vehicle, I believe,  
18     by Ms. Tellez?

19      **A.**     Yes, sir.

20      **Q.**     Other than on the 25th of September, there's no  
21     actual evidence that Mr. Hidalgo transported any money to  
22     the Atlanta area, is there?

23      **A.**     I think there is.

24      **Q.**     What you're referring to is the wiretaps of  
25     conversations between Mr. Martinez and Andrew Carter?

1       **A.**     Along with surveillance.

2       **Q.**     Was there -- is there any surveillance video or  
3     otherwise that shows Mr. Hidalgo with cash?

4       **A.**     Not in possession of cash, no, sir. Not holding a  
5     bag of cash, no, sir.

6       **Q.**     So the only evidence that we have that Mr. Hidalgo  
7     transported any currency to Atlanta is on -- allegedly is  
8     November -- September the 25th, 2014?

9       **A.**     No, sir.

10      **Q.**     The others are conversations between Mr. Martinez  
11     and Mr. Carter, correct?

12      **A.**     That's correct.

13      **Q.**     When you interviewed Mr. Hidalgo -- I'm sorry -- Mr.  
14     Martinez, did he tell you that Mr. Hidalgo had transported  
15     cash on any other occasion?

16      **A.**     Yes.

17      **Q.**     Did he give you the dates of that -- those  
18     transportations?

19      **A.**     I think he told me a week prior.

20      **Q.**     So we're talking about the 19th, roughly?

21      **A.**     Yes, sir, if that's the week prior.

22      **Q.**     So those are the only two, because you and I talked  
23     about this on Friday; did we not?

24      **A.**     We did.

25      **Q.**     And the two dates that we know of is the 25th where

1 the two hundred twenty-five, twenty-six thousand was  
2 seized, correct?

3 **A.** That's correct.

4 **Q.** And possibly that Mr. Hidalgo transported some cash  
5 on the 19th of September, the week before, correct?

6 **A.** That's correct. We also have September the 10th,  
7 2014, and this is the surveillance that we're observing  
8 him traveling behind James Waters. I believe there's  
9 communications that would indicate the father-in-law  
10 transported currency at that time.

11 **Q.** I don't believe any of the interviews that you've  
12 conducted of the codefendants in this case indicated that  
13 Mr. Hidalgo has transported any currency, as it relates to  
14 your investigation that began in January of 2014; is that  
15 correct?

16 **A.** I thought I just answered that question. I don't  
17 know him transporting in January of 2014, but I know of  
18 him transporting currency in September of 2014.

19 **Q.** But no dope at that time?

20 **A.** Will you ask your question again, Mr. Haugabrook, so  
21 I can understand it correctly?

22 **Q.** None of the codefendants that you've interviewed  
23 indicated or stated that Mr. Hidalgo transported any  
24 drugs?

25 **A.** Their common statement is he's mostly a --

1       **Q.**     Money?

2       **A.**     -- currency courier.

3       **Q.**     Okay. As it relates to this investigation, there is  
4     no indication or suggestion that Mr. Hidalgo is the one  
5     that is arranging these drug transactions are there?

6       **A.**     No. They're believed to be arranged by José  
7     Martinez.

8       **Q.**     Nothing to suggest that he introduced Mr. Martinez  
9     to Fatboy or Skinny in Atlanta, is there?

10      **A.**     Not at this time.

11      **Q.**     Nothing to suggest that he was sort of a middle man  
12     for anybody, is there?

13      **A.**     I guess it would depend on your definition of a  
14     middle man.

15      **Q.**     You've been in this business a long time and you  
16     understand what a middle man is, right? Someone who  
17     actually --

18      **A.**     Are you speaking of --

19      **Q.**     -- puts a deal together?

20      **A.**     -- a broker?

21      **Q.**     A broker?

22      **A.**     No, sir.

23      **Q.**     No?

24      **A.**     No, sir.

25      **Q.**     On the date that Mr. Hidalgo was arrested, I presume

1 the vehicle was just intercepted somehow or blue lighted  
2 and pulled over?

3 **A.** We were surveilling him, but we requested the  
4 assistance of a marked patrol car to pull him over. So  
5 does that answer your question?

6 **Q.** Yes. And he pulled over willingly, correct?

7 **A.** He did.

8 **Q.** Didn't try to run?

9 **A.** He didn't.

10 **Q.** Once he was stopped, didn't provide any aliases  
11 (inaudible)?

12 **A.** Not that I'm aware of.

13 **Q.** Didn't provide any false or fake ID, did he?

14 **A.** Not that I'm aware of.

15 **Q.** And the items that you found on his person, I think  
16 you testified that you found a wallet?

17 **A.** We did.

18 **Q.** Was there a driver's license in that wallet?

19 **A.** I believe there was two driver's license in that  
20 wallet.

21 **Q.** And where were those driver's license issued, which  
22 state?

23 **A.** They were both Georgia. One had probably his old  
24 address on it, but they were both Georgia driver's  
25 license, if I recall correctly.

1       **Q.**    And they had his name on it?

2       **A.**    They did.

3       **Q.**    Didn't have any other aliases or anything like that?

4       **A.**    That's correct.

5       **Q.**    Could one of them have been a Georgia identification  
6       card as opposed to a driver's license?

7       **A.**    Possible.

8       **Q.**    Do you have anything to indicate that he was in  
9       possession of two driver's license, which is illegal?

10      **A.**    No. I wasn't trying to indicate that.

11      **Q.**    Okay. And he also had -- I believe you indicated  
12       during our conversation on Friday there were two debit  
13       cards?

14      **A.**    There were two debit cards and several bank deposit  
15       slips in his wallet.

16      **Q.**    I think your testimony on direct that there were  
17       several cards though, and I just want to be sure that I  
18       understand that it was just two debit cards.

19      **A.**    Two debit cards and several deposit slips, deposits  
20       to Wells Fargo.

21      **Q.**    And those debit cards were issued by some financial  
22       institution. I think you told me --

23      **A.**    I think --

24      **Q.**    -- out of Texas?

25      **A.**    I think they were all Wells Fargo accounts. There

1       were -- some of the accounts were owned by an individual  
2       in El Paso, Texas.

3       **Q.**       The accounts were?

4       **A.**       Yes, sir.

5       **Q.**       They were not in Mr. Hidalgo's name?

6       **A.**       That's correct.

7       **Q.**       And I think during our conversation you told me just  
8       a small amount of money had been placed on those cards?

9       **A.**       Yeah.

10      **Q.**       A couple of hundred dollars, I think?

11      **A.**       Less than a thousand. It was not a large sum of  
12       money.

13      **Q.**       You didn't find any large sums of money on Mr.  
14       Hidalgo when you stopped him, outside of the bag?

15      **A.**       No, sir.

16      **Q.**       Based on your investigation and what you know thus  
17       far about Mr. Hidalgo, you have not found any sort of out  
18       -- off shore accounts in his name, have you?

19      **A.**       I have not.

20      **Q.**       Haven't found that he's been in possession  
21       personally of any large sums of money, outside of the bag  
22       that was found in his vehicle, correct?

23      **A.**       Outside of him getting US legal counsel, no, sir.

24                    MR. HAUGABROOK: Your Honor, I'm going to object  
25       and ask the witness to answer the question.

1                   WITNESS LUKE: No, sir.

2                   MR. HAUGABROOK: Of course, I know that that was  
3 a smart remark.

4                   WITNESS LUKE: No, sir.

5 BY MR. HAUGABROOK:

6 **Q.** You haven't found that he owns any property outside  
7 of Tifton, have you?

8 **A.** I have not.

9 **Q.** Outside of the United States, have you?

10 **A.** I have not.

11 **Q.** You haven't discovered that Mr. Hidalgo has been  
12 paid any large sums of money by any codefendant in this  
13 case, have you?

14 **A.** I have not.

15 **Q.** In fact, I think when you and I spoke the other day  
16 the average for someone that transports money is a few  
17 hundred dollars, four, five, \$600, correct? Based on your  
18 experience?

19 **A.** It can vary.

20 **Q.** No other hidden accounts or anything like that, with  
21 the money that are attributable to Mr. Hidalgo, have been  
22 found or located, have they?

23 **A.** Not that I've found.

24 **Q.** And there's nothing to suggest that the \$226,000  
25 that was in this duffel bag in his car belonged solely to

1 him?

2 **A.** Not solely to him, no, sir.

3 **Q.** Did you all find any passport that belonged to Mr.  
4 Hidalgo?

5 **A.** Not that I recall.

6 **Q.** And as far as you know he doesn't own a passport,  
7 does he?

8 **A.** I do not know.

9 **Q.** You're not aware of Mr. Hidalgo traveling outside of  
10 the United States regularly, are you?

11 **A.** I don't know.

12 **Q.** Have you done any investigation on Mr. Hidalgo?

13 **A.** I have done investigations on Mr. Hidalgo.

14 **Q.** Have you done any background check on Mr. Hidalgo?

15 **A.** I've done some.

16 **Q.** And by some you've certainly investigated the debit  
17 card and the accounts on which they were drawn?

18 **A.** That's correct.

19 **Q.** Have you done any investigation in terms of people  
20 in the Tifton area, law enforcement, as it relates to Mr.  
21 Hidalgo?

22 **A.** Law enforcement?

23 **Q.** Find out about him?

24 **A.** I have inquired when we were trying to determine who  
25 he was. I don't know anything negative or positive.

1       **Q.**    No one has indicated to you that he lives any sort  
2        of extravagant lifestyle, have they?

3       **A.**    No, sir.

4       **Q.**    That he carries large sums of money?

5       **A.**    Nobody's told me.

6       **Q.**    And you have a number of photographs that are  
7        involved in this case in surveillance. None of the  
8        surveillance showed him in possession of any weapons?

9       **A.**    They do not.

10      **Q.**    You have no reason to believe that he owns any  
11        weapons, do you?

12      **A.**    I don't know. I have not queried any databases to  
13        see if he owns any firearms.

14      **Q.**    You didn't find any firearms in the vehicle when he  
15        was stopped, correct?

16      **A.**    That's correct.

17      **Q.**    Have you done any investigation to determine where  
18        he lives?

19      **A.**    I have.

20      **Q.**    And you're aware that he lives in a trailer, mobile  
21        home, in Tifton, correct?

22      **A.**    That's correct.

23      **Q.**    Has any search warrant been obtained to search that  
24        residence?

25      **A.**    There was.

1       **Q.**    Was there any guns found in that residence?

2       **A.**    No, sir.

3       **Q.**    Was there any cocaine or crack or heroin or any  
4       other drug found in that residence?

5       **A.**    No, sir.

6       **Q.**    Anything to suggest that at some point in the past  
7       that Mr. Hidalgo owned a weapon?

8       **A.**    I do not know of any paperwork being located.

9       **Q.**    Based on what you know about Mr. Hidalgo at this  
10      point, you have no reason to believe that he's been a  
11      violent person in the past, have you?

12      **A.**    I do not.

13      **Q.**    You've looked at his criminal history?

14      **A.**    I have.

15      **Q.**    In fact, you went over that with me on Friday; did  
16      you not?

17      **A.**    I did.

18      **Q.**    As I understand it that he has a DUI back in 2004,  
19      correct?

20      **A.**    That's correct. In El Paso, Texas.

21      **Q.**    There was no failure to appear on his record, was  
22      there?

23      **A.**    Not that I saw.

24      **Q.**    No bench warrant?

25      **A.**    Not that I saw.

1       **Q.**     No violent past at all as far as you're aware of at  
2     this point?

3       **A.**     That law enforcement is aware of.

4       **Q.**     Do you have any reason to suspect that he's been  
5     violent in the past?

6       **A.**     Oh, no, sir.

7       **Q.**     And when he was stopped on September the 25th, he  
8     cooperated with law enforcement; did he not?

9       **A.**     I guess it would depend on your definition of  
10    cooperated.

11      **Q.**     Didn't try to provide you with any false information  
12    about who he was, did he?

13      **A.**     Not that I'm aware of.

14      **Q.**     Didn't try to flee, did he?

15      **A.**     He did not.

16      **Q.**     You have not received any report from either the  
17    Tift County jail or the jail in Pelham that he's been  
18    unruly, have you?

19      **A.**     I have not.

20      **Q.**     You haven't received any information from any law  
21    enforcement that Mr. Hidalgo has been uncooperative,  
22    combative, or anything along those lines, have you?

23      **A.**     Uncooperative in the sense of not being combative,  
24    no, sir.

25      **Q.**     As it relates to part of why we're here today, and

1 that is to address one of the issues, is the issue of  
2 bond. There's no reason that you can think of or provide  
3 to this Court that if bond is granted that he would  
4 intimidate any witnesses?

5 **A.** I do not know.

6 **Q.** There's no reason for you to provide -- or you don't  
7 have any information as it relates to Mr. Hidalgo that if  
8 he got bond he would obstruct justice?

9 **A.** I do not know.

10 **Q.** That he would threaten anybody in the community?

11 **A.** I do not know.

12 **Q.** That he would destroy or damage any property in the  
13 community?

14 **A.** I do not know.

15 **Q.** You have no reason to suspect that if he gets bond  
16 that he would engage in any criminal activity, do you?

17 **A.** I do not know.

18 **Q.** And criminal activity? I mean sell drugs?

19 **A.** I do not know.

20 **Q.** As far as you know he has not sold any drugs in this  
21 case?

22 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, I'm going to --

23 BY MR. HAUGABROOK:

24 **Q.** Him personally?

25 **A.** I do not know.

1       **Q.**    You're one of the lead investigators in this case,  
2 correct?

3       **A.**    I am.

4       **Q.**    Has there -- is there any report suggesting that he  
5 has personally sold any drugs in this case?

6       **A.**    I guess it would be a definition of the sale of  
7 drugs. His role in this case has been a courier --

8       **Q.**    Again, my question --

9       **A.**    -- of money.

10      **Q.**    -- is very clear. Agent Luke, you're one of the  
11 lead investigators?

12      **A.**    I am.

13      **Q.**    Has there been any report generated, any discussion  
14 between you and other law enforcement that Mr. Hidalgo has  
15 sold someone any drugs?

16      **A.**    I don't think so.

17      **Q.**    As far as you know, Mr. Hidalgo has not been  
18 involved in any other conspiracy to traffic drugs, has he?

19      **A.**    I do not know.

20      **Q.**    You don't have any reason to suspect that, do you?

21      **A.**    I do not.

22      **Q.**    And one of the things that you and I talked about on  
23 Friday, you had some concerns about if bond is granted  
24 that he might flee the jurisdiction; is that correct?

25      **A.**    Yes, sir.

1       **Q.**     But you would agree in this case he does not have  
2 any history of fleeing from the Court?

3       **A.**     I think his track record is small. I can't make an  
4 adjustment one -- one way or the other.

5       **Q.**     And when you talk about his track record you're  
6 talking about his encounters with the law as it relates to  
7 the DUI charge?

8       **A.**     That's correct.

9       **Q.**     And there's nothing to suggest that he did not abide  
10 by the Court's instructions in that case, is there?

11      **A.**     No, sir.

12      **Q.**     Nothing to suggest that he violated any probation in  
13 that case, is there?

14      **A.**     I do not know.

15      **Q.**     You looked at his criminal history. Is there any  
16 revocation of probation noted on his criminal history?

17      **A.**     There is not.

18      **Q.**     You said that there was a search warrant issued for  
19 the residence where he lives?

20      **A.**     That's correct.

21      **Q.**     Describe that mobile home for the Court, would you?

22      **A.**     It's a mobile home. I did not go inside the mobile  
23 home.

24      **Q.**     Is it a newer mobile home or is it old?

25      **A.**     I would say more older than newer.

1       **Q.**    Have you discovered any vehicles that were  
2    registered in Mr. Hidalgo's name?

3       **A.**    There were two vehicles that were also parked at the  
4    residence. I want to say one of them was registered in  
5    his name, which would have been a smaller, like, an  
6    S10-type truck, if I recall correctly.

7       **Q.**    And that S10 truck that you're referring to, I think  
8    -- I hope I'm not attributing this to you incorrectly, but  
9    I think it's a 1985 S10 truck?

10      **A.**    I don't know. It's an older --

11      **Q.**    But it's a much older truck though?

12      **A.**    It's an older truck.

13      **Q.**    Other than that S10 truck you don't have any reason  
14    to believe that he has any other vehicles, do you?

15      **A.**    That he owns or access to?

16      **Q.**    That he owns any other vehicles?

17      **A.**    I do not.

18      **Q.**    Do you have any reason to believe that he has access  
19    to some other vehicle?

20      **A.**    Well, there were two other vehicles maybe at his  
21    house. There was a -- a extended cab Chevrolet truck that  
22    had a Texas plate on it, and I believe that was it. There  
23    was at least one other vehicle at his house.

24      **Q.**    And he's not the only person that lives at that  
25    residence, is he?

1       **A.**     I don't think so.

2       **Q.**     In fact, his sister lives there?

3       **A.**     I'm not sure.

4       **Q.**     Do you know if whoever else lived there owned any of  
5     those vehicles?

6       **A.**     I do not know.

7       **Q.**     You just know that there was another couple of other  
8     vehicles there?

9       **A.**     I know there was one other female who lived there  
10    because I have observed her leaving the residence early in  
11    the morning during surveillance.

12      **Q.**     If you would look at Exhibit 10, I believe that  
13    photograph is one that you described as containing a gold  
14    Tahoe?

15      **A.**     The photograph itself does not contain it, but  
16    that's what is there. If you could see another foot on  
17    the other side of the photograph, you could see the gold  
18    Tahoe. That's where Andrew Carter is walking towards.

19      **Q.**     I probably could better ask you a question this way.  
20    The vehicle that Mr. Hidalgo is generally associated with  
21    is not at that location?

22      **A.**     I did not see it. No, sir.

23      **Q.**     And in Exhibit 11, Mr. Hidalgo is not in that  
24    photograph, is he?

25      **A.**     He's not the two people depicted in that photograph,

1 no, sir.

2 **Q.** You have no reason to believe that he was there or  
3 nearby, do you?

4 **A.** I do not. I don't know who was all in Mr. Martinez'  
5 vehicle, but I have no reason to believe that he was in  
6 the vehicle.

7 **Q.** As it relates to Exhibit 2, the transcript, I  
8 believe you testified that Mr. Martinez was in Texas?

9 **A.** Yes, sir. That's what the calls would indicate.

10 **Q.** There's nothing to indicate or even suggest that Mr.  
11 Hidalgo was in Texas at that time, is there?

12 **A.** I do not have any knowledge of him being in Texas at  
13 that time.

14 **Q.** There's nothing, as it relates to that conversation,  
15 that references Mr. Hidalgo is there? That call is  
16 between --

17 **A.** I don't think so. Not in that conversation.

18 **Q.** I think it's between Mr. Martinez and Mr. Carter,  
19 right?

20 **A.** Yes, sir. I believe is to be correct.

21 **Q.** Now, in reference to September the 10th, 2014, I  
22 believe you testified that Mr. Waters was transporting a  
23 large quantity of cocaine?

24 **A.** Yes, sir.

25 **Q.** And they went to some location in the Tifton area?

1       **A.**     They traveled to Dunwoody, Georgia.

2       **Q.**     Is that where they supposedly or allegedly got the  
3       cocaine?

4       **A.**     Yes, sir. That's -- that would be the residence of  
5       Fatman or Fatboy. And then they traveled back to 1211  
6       C.S. Powell, which is an Omega, Tift -- or Colquitt  
7       County, Georgia. It's on the Tift/Colquitt line.

8       **Q.**     That's not a residence owned or lived in by Mr.  
9       Hidalgo, is it?

10      **A.**     That's correct. No, sir.

11      **Q.**     And you talked about you all had surveillance. So I  
12      presume you followed Mr. Waters to that location?

13      **A.**     We did.

14      **Q.**     And Mr. Hidalgo was not there, was he?

15      **A.**     We didn't follow him, no, sir.

16      **Q.**     He didn't go to that location, did he?

17      **A.**     He did not.

18      **Q.**     As it relates to Exhibit Number 7, I think this is a  
19      conversation, again, between Mr. Carter and Mr. Martinez;  
20      is that correct?

21      **A.**     Is that session number 4803?

22                   THE COURT: 4811.

23      **A.**     4811. Yes, sir.

24      **Q.**     That's a conversation between Mr. Martinez and Mr.  
25      Carter?

1       **A.**     It is. It's an incoming call from José Martinez to  
2 Andrew Carter.

3       **Q.**     And in that conversation you testified that Mr.  
4 Martinez referenced Mr. Hidalgo is putting some money into  
5 this deal?

6       **A.**     Yes, sir.

7       **Q.**     Is that correct? When you interviewed Mr. Martinez,  
8 he never told you that Mr. Hidalgo put any money into this  
9 deal, did he?

10      **A.**     I did not ask.

11      **Q.**     And he did not tell you that, did he?

12      **A.**     He did not.

13      **Q.**     And you don't know if his statements in this  
14 conversation are true?

15      **A.**     I do not.

16      **Q.**     You have no idea whether he was making these  
17 statements to somehow bolster himself with Mr. Carter, do  
18 you?

19      **A.**     I do not.

20      **Q.**     In actuality whether or not Mr. Hidalgo put any  
21 money in it, we don't know?

22      **A.**     We just have the calls, and then the surveillance of  
23 him actually leaving 128 Meadows Drive going north on the  
24 Interstate.

25      **Q.**     But that does not suggest or prove that Mr. Hidalgo

1 put any money into purchasing cocaine though?

2 **A.** It would be in the calls.

3 **Q.** Based on what Mr. Martinez is telling Mr. Carter?

4 **A.** That's correct.

5 **Q.** And that's all you base that on?

6 **A.** That's correct.

7 **Q.** And you also interviewed Mr. Carter --

8 **A.** I did.

9 **Q.** -- correct? And did he indicate to you that Mr.  
10 Hidalgo put some money into that particular deal?

11 **A.** I didn't ask.

12 **Q.** He didn't tell you, did he?

13 **A.** He did not.

14 **Q.** And I know that this was asked I think on cross  
15 examination, and I wrote it down as you said that the bag  
16 -- the duffel bag in the van that Mr. Hidalgo was driving,  
17 it's similar. What do you mean that the bag is similar?

18 **A.** Well, I mean I'm sure the bag had some kind of  
19 serial number on it from the one we saw being exchanged to  
20 the one that's in the car. It looks -- the surveillance  
21 (inaudible) says a duffel bag was being exchanged, and we  
22 found a duffel bag in the car.

23 **Q.** Okay.

24 **A.** That's what I mean by similar. I can't say it's the  
25 exact bag, but the evidence would lead me to believe that

1 it is the bag.

2 **Q.** In your interview of Mr. Martinez and with Mr.  
3 Carter, neither one of them indicated to you that or how  
4 many times Mr. Hidalgo may have transported money, did  
5 they?

6 **A.** I didn't ask and they didn't say.

7 **Q.** And I think we established this early on, what we're  
8 sure about is on the 25th of September and I guess the  
9 19th conversation of September where I presume Mr.  
10 Martinez is saying that he would send paw-in-law; is that  
11 correct?

12 **A.** Is your question -- I don't understand the question.

13 **Q.** Those are the dates that we can establish that Mr.  
14 Hidalgo may have transported some money?

15 **A.** No. I think there's other dates where he says he's  
16 going to send his paw-in-law. That we -- that we have  
17 played for the Court. There's a text message on September  
18 the 10th talking about sending paw-in-law from who I  
19 believe is Fatman. But those are two of the dates.

20 **Q.** As it relates to the September 10th date, is there  
21 any surveillance that Mr. Hidalgo went to Atlanta?

22 **A.** There's surveillance that he came back from Atlanta.

23 **Q.** And that surveillance when you say suggests he came  
24 back from Atlanta, where does the surveillance start?

25 **A.** South of Cordele.

1       **Q.**    And that's the basis for why you believe he went to  
2   Atlanta?

3       **A.**    That and the indications of the phone calls.

4       **Q.**    And I think you testified on cross that there are  
5   hundreds of hours -- hours of surveillance in this case?

6       **A.**    Yes, sir.

7       **Q.**    And none of those surveillance indicate that Mr.  
8   Hidalgo was in possession of any weapons, do they?

9       **A.**    Not that I recall.

10            MR. HAUGABROOK: I think that's all I have, Your  
11   Honor.

12            THE COURT: All right. Why don't before I see  
13   if the government has any redirect and we go back around  
14   again, whoever wants to -- I know, Agent Luke, you've been  
15   on the stand a while, let's stand up and stretch and  
16   everybody is invited to get the circulation going.

17            (Stretch break)

18            THE COURT: All right. Ms. Bowen, is there any  
19   redirect from the government?

20            MS. BOWEN: There is, and I will try to be  
21   brief.

22            THE COURT: All right.

23                    REDIRECT EXAMINATION

24            BY MS. BOWEN:

25       **Q.**    Agent Luke, I do recognize you've been on the stand

1 for a while. I'm going to try to take these in order so  
2 we'll go Mr. Carter, Mr. Martinez, and Mr. Hidalgo.

3 **A.** Okay.

4 **Q.** So first I ask you some questions in regards to Mr.  
5 Carter. I believe you were asked about historical  
6 information that you received from confidential  
7 informants?

8 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

9 **Q.** During the course of the investigation all the way  
10 up through the wiretap intercepted communications, was the  
11 information provided by the confidential sources that  
12 Andrew Carter was receiving his cocaine or at least some  
13 of his cocaine from José Martinez corroborated either  
14 through surveillance, traffic stops, or statements  
15 actually both from Andrew Carter and, I believe, José  
16 Martinez?

17 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

18 **Q.** Now, I think there was question about if you'd  
19 listened to every single call. Now, I -- I don't expect  
20 that you could probably put an exact number, but would it  
21 be fair to characterize the quantity of calls during this  
22 30 day period as voluminous?

23 **A.** Yes.

24 **Q.** Now, there was some indication -- I think you  
25 testified that the power records at 186 Crosland Lenox

1 Road were in the name of Andrew Carter?

2 **A.** That's correct.

3 **Q.** Similarly in the master bedroom of his house there  
4 were some diabetes medications?

5 **A.** Yes, ma'am. During -- during the course of the  
6 investigation we learned that Andrew Carter has diabetes,  
7 and he has to take insulin shots. He was actually  
8 hospitalized, I believe, at least on one occasion during  
9 the course of the wire intercept, and he has to take  
10 insulin. And that was located beside the firearm.

11 **Q.** And that was the Taurus PT 140, .40, serial number  
12 -- which we don't need the serial number, but the handgun  
13 that was located in the bedroom was close in proximity to  
14 the diabetes medication that belonged to Andrew Carter?

15 **A.** That's correct.

16 **Q.** Now, speaking about the Futch Road residence where  
17 Andrew Carter and I believe Latoris Waters, who is his  
18 girlfriend, previously resided, I believe you testified  
19 that an AR-15 was recovered at that location?

20 **A.** Yes, ma'am, I did.

21 **Q.** And is it similar in type and appearance to,  
22 although it be not a great depiction, but you have seen  
23 the surveillance of it captured in Government's Exhibit  
24 10?

25 **A.** To me I believe it's the same -- same firearm.

1       **Q.**     And based upon your review of that entire  
2 surveillance footage it is your knowledge that the  
3 vehicle, the gold Tahoe, had been driven by José Martinez  
4 during this investigation?

5       **A.**     Yes, ma'am. I had observed him driving the vehicle  
6 prior to that day.

7       **Q.**     And it was present on that day, I believe that was  
8 April 10th, 2014, when Andrew Carter steps out of his  
9 house with the AR-15 and another package in his hand?

10      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

11      **Q.**     Now, the Dodge dually, and I realize this is a  
12 reference to the style of bodies, it's a Dodge Ram truck?

13      **A.**     Yes, ma'am. It's a Dodge Ram truck.

14      **Q.**     Okay. And had this vehicle previously been seen in  
15 this investigation?

16      **A.**     It has. It had been. The vehicle has been observed  
17 by -- driven by Andrew Carter and distributing cocaine at  
18 1569 Georgia Avenue in the dirt alley beside his mother's  
19 house. That was a common area for customers of the Andrew  
20 Carter organization to meet with Andrew Carter to obtain  
21 cocaine.

22      **Q.**     Now, when Andrew Carter was arrested or taken into  
23 custody at the Love's Travel Mart in Tifton, I believe you  
24 testified on direct that he fled?

25      **A.**     He did. He busted a window or broke the door, the

1 rear door, when he was trying to go through it.

2 **Q.** All right. So in the path of his flight there was a  
3 set of doors, and as a result of his flight, those doors  
4 got broken?

5 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

6 **Q.** Now, let's move on to Mr. José Martinez.

7 **A.** Okay.

8 **Q.** There was mention of Jessica Tellez, and I want to  
9 make sure it's clear for the Court, this is the wife of  
10 José Martinez?

11 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

12 **Q.** And she's also indicted in this conspiracy as well?

13 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

14 **Q.** And she was in the vehicle that was -- that was  
15 stopped on September 25th, 2014?

16 **A.** That's correct.

17 **Q.** And the bag, this black duffel bag that we've heard  
18 testimony about, and I believe it's depicted in  
19 Government's Exhibit 13 -- correct me if I'm wrong. This  
20 black bag was seen being transferred by Jessica Tellez to  
21 Juan Sanchez Hidalgo?

22 **A.** It's Government's Exhibit 14.

23 **Q.** Fourteen. Thank you.

24 **A.** And, yes, ma'am, as I've testified the surveillance  
25 officers saw a bag being transferred, a duffel-type bag,

1 and there's a duffel-type bag in his vehicle.

2 **Q.** Now, I believe I may have asked you this on direct,  
3 but just in case I did not, you testified as to three  
4 meetings between Andrew Carter and José Martinez. I  
5 believe those dates were April 10th, May 11th, and August  
6 11th of this year?

7 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

8 **Q.** Or, excuse me, we're in 2015 -- last year, 2014?

9 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

10 **Q.** Were those the only meetings that took place between  
11 José Martinez and Andrew Carter?

12 **A.** No, ma'am.

13 **Q.** I believe you were asked on cross about who owns the  
14 Ford F-150 that is white-in-color?

15 **A.** F-250 is white color. Yes, ma'am.

16 **Q.** Thank you. I'm sorry. Pickup trucks are not my  
17 area of expertise. Now, this white Ford F-250 throughout  
18 the course of the investigation who did you see driving  
19 this vehicle?

20 **A.** José Martinez.

21 **Q.** And, in fact, he was stopped and arrested in this  
22 vehicle on September 25th, 2014?

23 **A.** That's correct.

24 **Q.** Let's move on to Mr. Hidalgo. I believe you  
25 testified that Andrew Carter in his statement -- actually

1 before I ask you that, let me put this in better context.

2 Now, Andrew Carter and José Martinez both spoke to you?

3 **A.** Yes.

4 **Q.** And we're talking about a time frame, at least  
5 what's charged in the indictment, of January 2013 through  
6 October 2014?

7 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

8 **Q.** How long did you speak to these two gentlemen?

9 **A.** Less than two hours each. Or approximately two  
10 hours. On Andrew Carter, I initially spoke with him and  
11 he wanted to speak with his mother and girlfriend, and so  
12 I stopped the interview to allow him to speak with them  
13 for a short period of time, for approximately 30 minutes.  
14 And then I spoke with him. And on José Martinez, we  
15 started the interview, we stopped the interview, we came  
16 back to the interview. I can't remember the exact time.

17 **Q.** Okay. So to put that timeframe in context, you  
18 testified way back in the beginning of your direct that  
19 you've worked a previous drug trafficking investigation  
20 and wiretap investigations?

21 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

22 **Q.** And as a result of those investigations have you had  
23 an opportunity to debrief individuals who wished to  
24 cooperate regarding their involvement in the drug  
25 conspiracy?

1       **A.**     I have. And in this case I was trying to get a  
2 broad overview of the conspiracy and understand or ask  
3 certain questions I knew that were broad in scope. I have  
4 not done a thorough debriefing like I would normally do,  
5 and that I plan on doing in this type of investigation.

6       **Q.**     And would that be fair to say because it's in the  
7 early stages of any cooperation or statements they might  
8 make?

9       **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

10      **Q.**     So a full debrief of all the questions that might be  
11     asked would take much longer?

12      **A.**     It will take over a day.

13      **Q.**     However, in that short broad overview, as you  
14     characterize it, Andrew Carter did talk about Mr. Juan  
15     Sanchez Hidalgo, the paw-in-law of José Martinez?

16      **A.**     He did.

17      **Q.**     And he indicated both that he would courier drugs  
18     and money?

19      **A.**     He indicated that he was mostly a money courier.

20      **Q.**     Right. And I guess I should be precise. He  
21     provided a price per kilogram for which Mr. Hidalgo might  
22     transport cocaine?

23      **A.**     Yes, ma'am. He charged me what the price he would  
24     charge. Did I ask him has he ever transported cocaine? I  
25     don't believe so.

1       **Q.**    And is it typical, based on your knowledge and  
2   experience and -- of this case as well that drivers of  
3   cocaine and/or money will have a certain price per unit,  
4   if you will?

5       **A.**    Yes, ma'am.

6       **Q.**    All right. Speaking specifically about Fatboy or  
7   Mr. Juan Pablo Cuevas as he was later identified, would he  
8   arrange for deliveries of currency and deliveries of -- or  
9   rather pickups of drugs to take places at separate  
10   locations?

11      **A.**    Yes, ma'am. We learned that the currency was mainly  
12   transported to his apartment which is accessed by a gated  
13   parking garage, and then the -- whoever would bring up the  
14   money, mostly Juan Hidalgo Sanchez, would travel to this  
15   location. Now, the cocaine would be met -- the driver for  
16   the cocaine transportation would be met at a public  
17   location off of random Interstate exits in the Atlanta  
18   area.

19      **Q.**    So it was Juan Sanchez Hidalgo who would have the  
20   knowledge of where to go to deliver this money, to the  
21   source?

22      **A.**    Yes, ma'am.

23      **Q.**    Now, I believe we played, and correct me if I'm  
24   wrong, seven calls --

25      **A.**    I think that's correct.

1       **Q.**     -- during this hearing?

2       **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

3       **Q.**     And would it be accurate to say that Mr. Hidalgo or  
4     the paw-in-law of José Martinez was referenced in six of  
5     those calls?

6       **A.**     I believe he was referenced in almost all of them  
7     but one or two.

8       **Q.**     In addition to call 4803 which you've talked about  
9     and did some math for us in reference to Mr. Hidalgo  
10    kicking in that extra amount of money required to bring it  
11    up to a 2 kilogram price?

12      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

13                MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, if you'll bear with me a  
14    moment, I'm just trying to look at my notes.

15                THE COURT: Certainly.

16    BY MS. BOWEN:

17      **Q.**     All right. So you testified in regards to a  
18    Hondessy -- excuse me. I'm making up words. -- Honda  
19    Odyssey minivan, which was blue-in-color?

20      **A.**     Ma'am, I'm sorry. The last part of your question?

21      **Q.**     Yes. You testified that a blue Honda Odyssey  
22    minivan was seen multiple times in this investigation?

23      **A.**     Yes, ma'am.

24      **Q.**     And, correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe the  
25    dates that are relevant to that and to paw-in-law being

1 put on the road would be September 10th, September 19th,  
2 and September 25th?

3 **A.** That's correct.

4 **Q.** And those dates match surveillance that are  
5 consistent with the calls that we listened to here today?

6 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

7 **Q.** In particular on September 10th, 2014 -- actually  
8 let me back up. On September 25th, 2014, you testified  
9 that the two vehicles, the one occupied by Mr. Juan  
10 Sanchez Hidalgo and the nearly -- the \$225,973 and the  
11 white Ford F-250 occupied by Jessica Tellez and José  
12 Martinez were traveling in a tandem pattern?

13 **A.** They were.

14 **Q.** Was it the first time that you had observed this  
15 pattern of travel in this investigation?

16 **A.** No, ma'am. We had also observed it on September the  
17 10th when Juan Hidalgo Sanchez was following James Waters.  
18 Now, it was -- it's more his vehicle at the time on  
19 September 10th, I did not know who Juan Hidalgo Sanchez  
20 was, but it was his vehicle and it was an older Hispanic  
21 male in the vehicle driving.

22 **Q.** When you say his vehicle, you're referencing that  
23 blue Honda Odyssey minivan that was stopped --

24 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

25 **Q.** -- and he was found in it on the September 25th,

1 2014 date?

2 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

3 **Q.** All right. Intercepted communications on that date,  
4 what did they indicate about James Waters' reaction to how  
5 much cocaine he was delivering back to the Tifton,  
6 Georgia, area?

7 **A.** When the courier would obtain the cocaine in Atlanta  
8 it would sometimes be in a closed box or closed bag.  
9 We've had reference to it in this conversation. And when  
10 he learned it was -- it was either 10 or 15 kilograms, I  
11 cannot recall, he was shocked and mad because he was not  
12 getting paid the right amount of money I believe was his  
13 problem.

14 **Q.** And when you spoke to José Martinez on September  
15 25th, did he place his father's -- his paw-in-law on the  
16 road a week before?

17 **A.** He did.

18 **Q.** And would that be consistent with intercepted  
19 communications and surveillance around September 19th?

20 **A.** It was.

21 **Q.** The communications, we listened to some of them here  
22 today, surrounding that September 25th delivery of  
23 currency to pay off or pay for a quantity of cocaine, it  
24 was clear from them that that money would be going north?

25 **A.** Yes, ma'am.

1       **Q.**     And that José Martinez and his paw-in-law, Juan  
2     Sanchez Hidalgo, would be involved in that delivery?

3       **A.**     Yes, ma'am. We -- we thought it was going to occur  
4     on September 24th, and we had the surveillance assets in  
5     place to follow them on September 24th, but learned that  
6     they were not going to travel until September 25th.

7               MS. BOWEN:    That's all I have, Your Honor.

8               THE COURT:    All right. Let's see. Ms.  
9     Williams, anything further from you?

10              MS. WILLIAMS: No, Your Honor.

11              THE COURT:    Mr. Walker, anything further?

12              MR. WALKER: No, Your Honor.

13              THE COURT:    And, Mr. Haugabrook, anything  
14     further?

15              MR. HAUGABROOK: Just a couple of questions,  
16     Your Honor.

17                            RECROSS EXAMINATION

18              BY MR. HAUGABROOK:

19       **Q.**     Agent Luke, you testified that the Defendant had --  
20     Mr. Hidalgo had knowledge of where to go to deliver the  
21     money?

22       **A.**     Yes, ma'am. Yes, sir. I'm sorry.

23       **Q.**     Any knowledge the Mr. Hidalgo would have had about  
24     where to deliver the money would have been given to him by  
25     someone else in this conspiracy, wouldn't it?

1       **A.**    That's what I have to assume. Yes, sir.

2       **Q.**    He didn't know -- he wasn't just going somewhere on  
3       his own to conduct some drug transaction, was he?

4       **A.**    No. I would say people were directing his path and  
5       just -- it was a common spot for the money to go through  
6       this parking garage from what we've learned, but the  
7       actual cocaine to be picked up was usually a public place  
8       that was not common -- that was not the same place over  
9       and over.

10      **Q.**    And the place wherever this cocaine was supposed to  
11     be picked up did not -- was not a place where Mr. Hidalgo  
12     was? He went to a separate place, correct?

13      **A.**    That's correct.

14      **Q.**    Okay. Now, as it relates to September 10th, the  
15     government asked you about Mr. Hidalgo following James  
16     Waters?

17      **A.**    Yes.

18      **Q.**    Based on the wire intercepts and your investigation,  
19     overhearing conversations I presume, no one directed Mr.  
20     Hidalgo to follow James Waters, did they?

21      **A.**    I just know that the conversation was my  
22     father-in-law is following your father-in-law or something  
23     along those lines.

24      **Q.**    You don't know where they got -- where they got in  
25     contact with each other at, do you?

1       **A.**     I do not. No, sir.

2       **Q.**     And was that observed by any law enforcement agency?

3       **A.**     The surveillance of them driving south, yes, sir.

4       **Q.**     And where was that -- where did that surveillance  
5     start?

6       **A.**     Around Cordele.

7       **Q.**     Does any of the surveillance indicate that that just  
8     may have been happenstance, and I say that because Mr.  
9     Hidalgo goes one place to drop the money off and Mr.  
10    Waters went to another place, it could have been  
11    fortuitous that they happened be in Cordele about the same  
12    time?

13      **A.**     I know they were complaining about James Waters'  
14    driving. Do I know when he started following or what the,  
15    I guess, circumstances around that is, no, sir.

16      **Q.**     And nobody directed Mr. Hidalgo to follow James  
17    Waters from Atlanta back to Tifton, did they, as far as  
18    you know?

19      **A.**     No. Not that I can recall right now.

20                    MR. HAUGABROOK: That's all I have, Your Honor.

21                    THE COURT: All right. May Agent Luke step  
22    down?

23                    MS. BOWEN: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you.

24                    THE COURT: All right. Agent Luke, thank you,  
25    sir. It's been a long day for you.

1                   Is there going to be any further evidence from  
2 the government, Ms. Bowen?

3                   MS. BOWEN: No, Your Honor.

4                   THE COURT: Government rests?

5                   MS. BOWEN: Yes, Your Honor, saving argument.

6                   THE COURT: All right. Well, it's been a long  
7 day, and it's already 5:40 looks like. So what we're  
8 going to do, the government has rested. We're going to  
9 recess until 9:30 tomorrow morning, and we'll pick up  
10 there with each Defendant, give you an opportunity to put  
11 on whatever evidence you want to.

12                  Mr. Lawrence just reminded me I need my  
13 interpreter. What's your availability for tomorrow, Ms.  
14 Dorminey?

15                  INTERPRETER: If I can get to work --

16                  THE COURT: Well, let me put it this way, I've  
17 got lawyers from out of town, witnesses, so you tell me  
18 what will work for you, and that's when the rest of us is  
19 going to have to go. Can you tell me you'll be available  
20 some time tomorrow?

21                  INTERPRETER: I will be --

22                  THE COURT: We've probably got two hours left.

23                  INTERPRETER: -- available some time tomorrow.

24                  THE COURT: Huh?

25                  INTERPRETER: Yes, sir. Some time tomorrow I

1 will be.

2 THE COURT: Well, you tell me what's best --  
3 9:30, 2:30.

4 INTERPRETER: 2:30 would work.

5 THE COURT: 2:30 is better for you?

6 INTERPRETER: Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT: How about 2:00?

8 INTERPRETER: I can -- I think I can swing that.

9 THE COURT: Is that too tight?

10 INTERPRETER: No. I think that will work.

11 THE COURT: All right. The Defendants will  
12 remain in the custody of the Marshal, and we will recess  
13 until 2 p.m. tomorrow.

14 Ms. Bowen, just in case any Defendants want  
15 Agent Luke recalled for any reason or rebuttal or  
16 whatever, will Agent Luke be here tomorrow?

17 MS. BOWEN: He will be here.

18 THE COURT: All right. Very well. Ms.  
19 Williams, do you need to be heard?

20 MS. WILLIAMS: Your Honor, my only concern is  
21 that I actually have two witnesses that are outside now.  
22 I'm not sure if they'll be able to return tomorrow. May I  
23 step out and just let them know what's going on so I can  
24 let the Court know whether or not that's going to be an  
25 issue? Because they drove over today, and I know one of

1 them has a job, so I'm not sure about his schedule. And I  
2 had given them notice, like, last week about today, and so  
3 he had made arrangements for today.

4 THE COURT: I've got a little wiggle room, but  
5 you heard the interpreter. My guess is Ms. Dorminey is  
6 available in the afternoon, so if it helps somebody to  
7 start at 2:30 or 3.

8 Am I right, Ms. Dorminey, just can't start any  
9 earlier?

10 INTERPRETER: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: If somebody has a reason to start  
12 later tomorrow, obviously I don't want to be sitting here  
13 again at a quarter to six tomorrow, but, sure, I'll give  
14 you a minute to see if 2:00 is a problem. Just keep in  
15 mind I can probably start as late as 3, and that's about  
16 it.

17 MS. BOWEN: Your Honor, do you mind if I collect  
18 my computer?

19 (Aside)

20 THE COURT: No, that's fine. Ms. Williams?

21 MS. WILLIAMS: My one witness indicated that  
22 2:30 would be better for him than 2:00 because of -- like  
23 I said, he's working, feels like he could be finished at  
24 1:30 and it will take him, I think, about 45 minutes to  
25 get over here, and I was, like, well, I'll give you 15

1 minutes so you can park and get settled.

2 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Mr. Lawrence,  
3 we'll continue this hearing until 2:30 tomorrow. I will  
4 advise counsel and the witnesses now that -- of course,  
5 we're sharing this courtroom now with the Bankruptcy  
6 Judge, and he's supposed to come down from Macon tomorrow,  
7 so you might want to check. There's a possibility if  
8 we're not in this courtroom, we could be in Judge Abrams'  
9 courtroom on the third floor. Plan on being here, but you  
10 want to check with Mr. Lawrence. He'll know by 2:30.

11 And I apologize, I know witnesses have been  
12 sitting here, and y'all would have preferred to get it  
13 over with, but the Court is mindful that it has a lot of  
14 employees that have been here for a long day too, and  
15 frankly, my concentration span starts to dwindle off, so I  
16 think it would be good to start fresh tomorrow.

17 We'll see everybody at 2:30. Ms. Dorminey, our  
18 interpreter. We'll recess until then.

19  
20 (Recess)

21  
22  
23  
24  
25

1 CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER  
23 I, Tammy W. Fletcher, Federal Official Court  
4 Reporter, in and for the United States District Court for  
5 the Middle District of Georgia, do hereby certify that the  
6 foregoing is a true and correct transcript to the best of  
7 my knowledge and ability from the electronic recording  
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12

13 Dated this 3rd day of February, 2014.

14 *Tammy W. Fletcher*  
1516 \_\_\_\_\_  
17 TAMMY W. FLETCHER, CCR  
18 FEDERAL OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER  
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